

A SKETCH
OF A
POPULAR AND A NOVEL TREATMENT
FOR
DIARRHŒA, DYSENTERY,
AND
ENGLISH AND ASIATIC CHOLERA:
WITH
ILLUSTRATIVE CASES OF THE DISEASES.

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[HONOURED BY THE ROYAL MEDAL FOR CHOLERA IN PARIS, 1832.]

LONDON:
SAMUEL HIGHLEY, 32, FLEET STREET.

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WILSON AND OGILVY, 57, SKINNER STREET, LONDON.

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NOTICE.

IT is not with the intention of making a book, but of giving, I trust, benevolent readers, by your aid, good example and good advice, in offering to publicity this short sketch, extracted as one subject, taken from the many out of my "Practical Eclectic Note Book," kept by me during thirty years; to which constant additions of heroic and special treatment in diseases are made and collected. In giving publicity to this, I only desire to act up to a principle, a feeling of an imperative duty, which should be more generally entertained by *private* practitioners, to contribute to the relief of their distant fellow-creatures, to assuage and save, if possible, the lives of the many *poor* and helpless sufferers who have too often need of consultations and considerations from a distance, for their diseases, as well as the local practical administrations and charities they enjoy, for their domestic wants. This offered impression, from a right feeling, will justify and plead my excuse for the promise of giving publicity to other sketches of practical, special, and eclectic treatment of diseases most prevalent, with views of general application and popular utility.

"Salus populi suprema lex."

235, Oxford Street :
December, 1848.

DEDICATION.

A GOOD action needs no preface; but a dedication to my kind friends and dispersed patients, from me, is a tribute due to them: I here publicly offer them my best thanks for the past, looking forward to the future, in the hope, if there be need, to renew my friendly services to them and theirs; remembering that separated suddenly by the unfortunate revolution of Paris, our resolutions were, “in the hope of meeting again in quiet in our peaceful Old England.” For the present, under your auspices, as a willing volunteer, I offer up to publicity in your names, for the good of humanity, this Sketch, feeling to possess your sanctions, from the knowledge of your many gifts of charity, from having been often by you solicited, selected, and instructed in their secret distributions: under, then, such circumstances, threatened now with the evil, Cholera, no idea ought to be withheld, no effort untried, to protect us from, and cure us of, the infliction, should it happen to overtake us.

Imagining myself to be in possession of a certain remedy against diarrhœa, dysentery, sporadic cholera, and a treatment for Asiatic cholera, I feel it would be culpable in me, and against my nature, my gracious Queen, and my fellow-subjects, to withhold it longer,—menaced as we are by the scourge, inflicted for some

wise purpose. Yet, as human beings, in this, as in all things, we should feel it our duty to bestir ourselves, as was ably discoursed by the Rev. M. Nugee, in a charity sermon preached at St. Paul's, Wilton Street, Knightsbridge,—that it was our duty, one and all, high and low, rich and poor, to act, to comfort, to relieve, to save, whether in sickness or in health; perhaps to snatch from perdition in this world, and from everlasting torments in the next, a sad and helpless sinner; to reclaim and call to a better life, to live anew in the spirit of truth of the Gospel. In this christian and charitable feeling of obedience, I gave in my “Treatment” September last, addressed to my Lord John Russell, as a boon for the poor, suffering in Ireland, and from his Lordship’s Office received an acknowledgment. Calling there afterwards to know the issue, I was informed and advised to leave in the hands of the Board of Health my papers: immediately crossing over to Whitehall, I left, in the hands of the Board, my cholera medal, and manuscript, entitled “Extract from a Popular Sketch, and a certain Novel Treatment for Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Sporadic Cholera, and rational treatment of Epidemic Cholera.” A verbal answer was given, to call again. Returning home I addressed a note to Mr. Secretary Austin: after which, returning, as verbally requested, I received my medal, but left my “Treatment” till the following day. The occupation of the Board allowed me to see no one. I received my papers, and was told in a few days a note would be addressed to me;—days had past, so the week, and feeling I might wait again another week, a fortnight, a month,—my ideas given, whether read, appreciated, distributed, appropriated for the

general good, I knew not ; but felt them, however, as if estranged from me, though they may still be mine, from not having been read, looked at, or inquired into.

The novelty of my position, the Cholera being rife, delaying not, but striking immediately, and might afflict the mass in a few moments, I beg excuse for tendering to immediate publicity my views, founded on long practical experience ; and I believe I want no other title, possessing such to offer, with the honour, too, of being awarded, unsolicited, the Cholera medal for the Cholera of Paris, 1832 ! Embodied in this sketch will be found by eases whether a lively interest has not been kept up by me with regard to investigation, prevention, and treatment incidental to Cholera ; for which I beg to acknowledge benefits from Doctors M. C. Robinson, then in Paris, now in Canada ; Vassal, Foy, Fabre, Sophiano, Poulo, &c. But with regard specially to diarrhoea, dysentery, sporadic cholera, I beg to appropriate, and feel justly indebted to my patients, English, Americans, French, Germans, Poles, Russians, Italians, Portuguese, Spaniards, Israelites, who submitted to my treatment, reposing implicit confidence : and as a tribute to them, I offer my best thanks, to whom, as I have said above, this dedication is justly due, from their ever obliged,

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A

POPULAR SKETCH,

&c.

DIARRHŒA, dysentery, and sporadic or English cholera, by their ills are too well known ; but mostly ill understood by the mass, and mismanaged by the many, from routine ideas and routine practice in general.

Sporadic cholera should always be considered an acute and dangerous disease, as in a few hours it might be fatal. Diarrhœa and dysentery, under certain circumstances of collapse and exhaustion of the system, through neglect and improper attentions, are too often fatal.

The cholera epidemical, Asiatic, atmospherical, spasmodic, algide, asphyxiating, *paralysing* according to me—is new ; it might be sudden of attack, and as suddenly fatal, yet frequently it creeps on to a development by symptoms mistaken as diarrhœal, or as bilious and stomach derangements ; but from the queasy sensations, the sudden prostration of muscular power, with the awfully rapid and striking withering changes, and decomposition of the features to senility ; the algide insensibility and lividity of the surface, the

B

purple hue of the extremities, there can be no mistaking it :—add to this its worst symptom, the continuance of the total suppression of the secretion and passing of urine.

Is Asiatic cholera curable? Yes, when properly handled; but its occurrence requires early, prompt, and unceasing care; repeated and constant *efficient*, or medical, attendance by the bedside, to produce and watch over a powerful reactionary effect; and that is, 1st, The recal of *circulation, warmth, and profuse perspiration to the skin*, to arrest the visceral congestion of blood and the intestinal flux; 2d, the *paralysing* action on the nerves of the *secreting* and *assimilating* organs—as, 3d, the algide torpidity of the whole surface, the death-like cold insensibility repelling the fluids, to concentrate by this refluxion, to exudate as excretion from the bowels; 4th, to disembarass the clotted blood from choking and asphyxiating by apoplectic congestions the cavities of the head, body, heart, and lungs; 5th, in fine, to snatch from a collapse, to give circulation, expansion, and relief, to the concentrated fluids; 6th, to relieve the clonic and convulsive spasms, &c.

The cholera not being contagious, there can be no excuse against assiduous, intimate, and close assistance being given, when that assistance might be simple, efficient, and attainable, in every community, in every family.

1st. What remedy have we, then, for diarrhœa,*

* Diarrhœa is a very prevalent affection in France, particularly in Paris, owing to the watery and light fermentescent vegetable and acid saucers and drinks so common and so universal the form of diet. The diarrhœa continues as an habitual affection with

presuming the case very severe? Let us inquire if it is, 1st, diarrhœa from an excess of and admixture of food and fermentation; or is it, 2dly, a case from habitual deprivation, starvation, exposure, with a vegetable and slop diet, or with scanty bad food and drinks? If, 1st, from repletion, the disease might often be let alone, to work its own cure; enjoining only quiet, bodily warmth, repose, a simple rice diet, total abstinence from food and drinks, or spirituous* or fermented liquors, till feeling well; but should the

some for weeks, months, and years, the nature of it being considered from “*échauffement*,” heat, irritation, and inflammation. The diet is consequently light, with fruit and vegetables; so that the constitution in Paris was found, as it were, rife with the premonitory symptoms of cholera; and the population suffered to a greater extent than was reported to have been the case, on the visitation in 1831, in London. The mortality from cholera in Paris, 1832, was said to be about 18,440; that of London and all the British Isles only 18,600 odd. From a reason of the habitual state of action and irritation of the follicular glands of the intestinal canal, there can be no doubt but that the Parisians may attribute their enormous fatality from cholera. It has been remarked, bearing this out with regard to poverty of living, that in Great Britain, greater fatality was found amongst those whose diet was habitually with greater preponderance of vegetable food: thus Ireland gave more deaths by cholera than Scotland; Scotland more than England and Wales. In so much, then, can be expected the fatality in India—in Russia, from the poor living mostly on black rye bread and onions, drinking water—in Germany, from the fermentescent vegetable diet and drinks, as with the French. Rye, being more or less ergoted, mildewed as the Indian Patna rice, and particularly the Java rice, which proverbially is liable to blight, blackened by spots, and is known to give diarrhœa and cholera: hence avoided.

* I have observed several times an alarming state of a feeling of a faint, or sense of syncope from the bowels; it comes on like a qualm—a sinking and fainting, even to falling into insensibility—and has even given great alarm, from being common to

diarrhœa persist, with great irritation and depression following, &c.; then as if, 2dly, the ease was from habitual irritation, from want and starvation, the body must be well covered and kept warm, remaining quiet lying down; no talking; and if chill and cold shivering is felt, and the diarrhœa persisting, to retire to bed to perspire, having applications of warmth where the chills are felt, by such means as poverty can procure, as dry hot flannels, hot water bottles, tins, pans, irons, bricks, boiled pulse, beans, barley, bran, hay, straw, sea-weeds, shavings, saw-dust, hot salt, sand, ashes, &c. &c. wrapt up in flannel or linen, or in the meantime to lie with some one of the family, cat or dog, till better means of warmth can be procured; and if thirsty, to take sips of cold water, holding it a time in the mouth to take off the chill before swallowing it; till, also, any of the analeptic drinks (A), or absorbent food (B), can be obtained, the which should be sparingly given at first, according to the peculiarity and severity of the ease.

Should the diarrhœa, from great nervous innate constitutional irritability, be tenacious, with fever, and fatiguingly urgent, with spasmodical scalding passage of fluids, we must allay the susceptibilities by absorbing

the aged of both sexes. Its cause is from *too frequent and sudden action of the bowels from indigestion*, on taking hurriedly a mass of food, and swallowing it imperfectly, or sometimes not masticated at all. The symptoms are accompanied by yawnings, lassitude, and cold chills. Hot drinks, spiced wines, hot brandy and water taken, with the application of hot spirits, or vinegar, æther, and flannel to the bowels, keeping the recumbent position, will soon recover; when, afterwards, rice, gruel, or arrow root, spiced, &c. will suffice to remedy; when, afterwards, the warm tonics, as cascarrilla, clove, and cardamom, &c. will be restorative of the digestive nerves.

the bile—wrapping it up, as it were—thereby shielding the mucous membranes, as if by a varnish, against the heat and acridity of the very secretions of the stomach and bowels. A ready and impromptu means to attain this end is to give a tea-spoonful of simple starch, or good wheaten flour, suspended in only a mouthful of cold water, after every evacuation, and to administer likewise two tea-spoonfuls of the dry powdered starch or wheaten flour, by having it blown up the bowels five minutes or less after each sealding evacuation, through a dry tube about the size of the finger, made of an elder branch or otherwise, by means of a good puff of a pair of common bellows, or anyhow. Charcoal or chalk might be used, but are objectionable, as they are excrementitious. The above, or gum Arabic in powder, is preferable.

Should the sufferer be an infant, the proportions guarded, sufflate the powder through a quill; burn and round the end for introduction into the rectum: this must be attended to, to avoid hurting the inflamed membrane of the gut. Thus I have known the mothers to blow up the powder, simply by applying the mouth to the quill.* Such might be resorted to until the antiperistaltic powder (C) can be obtained, &c.

This mode of treatment is preventive of—1st, prolapsus of the rectum; 2dly, knotting or twisting of the bowels; 3dly, intussusception or invagination of the intestines; † 4thly, the perforation of the bowels by irrita-

* Adapting the nozzle of a pair of bellows to a small syringe, containing the powder, would do better.

† The insufflation, or the merely blowing up wind in the bowels, will be a means of reducing strangulated hernia, especially

tion and corrosion,—the one or the other termination so common in these cases, particularly to infants, children, and adults of a nervous, irritable, spare habit of body, the fatality of which need not be mentioned. Also, it is a means to rid the rectum of the irritation of worms, &c. &c.

The antiperistaltic absorbent powder (C) might be given in teaspoonful doses, repeated as above, suspended in a mouthful or two of cold water, or more or less of any of the analeptic drinks (A), which drinks might also be frequently repeated in small quantity, until the intestines will bear the impression of the presence of the absorbent and antifatulent food (B).

Seldom in diarrhœa, however severe, has it been found with me necessary to give opiates, spices, or cordials, internally; I have contented and reduced the spasms by external applications of one or other of the epithemas (D); though seldom, yet a combination of them might be urgent, as the medicines (E) under professional care, as others not here mentioned, the which cannot always be avoided from some peculiarity attending individual cases.*

if a warm cataplasm of the leaves or extract of henbane, belladonna, or tobacco, or opium, or ice, have been previously applied to the strangulation, and the patient be lying with the hernial part more elevated than the rest of the body, and the hernial side being at the same time more elevated than the other unaffected side,—the patient drawing in his breath deeply at the same time of the insufflation of wind up the bowels.

* Sympathetic and consecutive diarrhœa, fatal to patients after some severe operations, from their reduced state and the low sloppy diet, might thus be arrested, and at the same time an aliment and absorbent given, to support as well as to wrap up and saturate the acrid bile and acrid secretions, shielding thereby

2ndly. Dysentery.—Should that be allowed to become the form of affection, occurring with watery, corrosive, bloody, puriform, gelatinous, slimy, or scanty infectious stools, with fever, tormina, tenesmus, cramps, spasms, hot urine, parched mouth and throat, with thirst, &c., this prompt diarrhœal treatment should be enforced, with free application of laudanum to the bowels and pit of the stomach, on the skin itself; and the body should be bound in soft flannel or carded wool of considerable thickness, to ensure warmth. Opium should be added to the antiperistaltic absorbent powder (C), in both administrations, that is stomachal and rectal, and repeated as in the case of severe diarrhœa; reaction to the skin, by perspiration, should be obtained, the drinks somewhat acidulated (?) with fresh lemon juice; opiated rice cataplasms to the bowels of considerable size. From ten to twenty leeches might be applied to the seat, if the rectum is painfully inflamed, to relax the congestion there, as also of the lower bowels; and we should be mindful that ulcerations might keep up the action and irritation of the bowels,

the coats of the alimentary canal against their uncontrollable irritation; also the colliquative diarrhœa attendant on the fatiguing oscillations of the bowels, by the constant cough and expectoration in phthisis, caused and excited therefrom, as from the absorption of the swallowed secretions of the matter and pus of the expectoration constantly generated from the bronchia, or cavities formed in the lungs, or the trachea; as also the hectic and colliquative diarrhœa observed to arise from the absorption of pus from internal organic abscesses formed, the which, altering the natural secretions and sensibility of the nerves, engender that irritation on the intestinal canal as to bring on fatal diarrhœa. With the above means, additions, professionally selected and specially advised, will, of course, be in such cases required.

when, if so, the analeptic drinks (A), the absorbent food (B), which is antifatulent and noneffervescent, with time, patience, and care, recovers to an healthy state the more or less ulcerative, aphthous, mucous, membranous, congestive, and eruptive intestinal tube, triumphing over all the gravity, severity, and misgivings of symptoms, as in the case No. 1, reported of Madame Cavet.

3rdly. Sporadic Cholera.—Should that be the form of derangement, similar means of external applications, and the reaction to the skin, with the special internal treatment, would, as in severe diarrhœa and in dysentery, master the affection. It mostly bursts forth as an ebullition and fermentation of bile, in healthy constitutions in general, caused from disagreement of food, on exposure to excessive heat, or cold, or fatiguing exertions, or from some indulgence in excess. A neglectful inattention to it (though suffering), solely from the previous long enjoyment of good health, treating it with stimulants and drastics, taking food and bodily exercise (though walking with cramps and chills), may give it a gravity and development of unsuspected fatality. We should be mindful of the epidemic influence abroad, stirring in the atmosphere, not to trifle with any feeling or ailment like cholera, for even in the sporadic and English forms it is an acute and severe disease, and might run speedily fatal. With care it can be overcome like diarrhœa or dysentery; but particular attention should be paid to the intercurrent complications of visceral affection, as the sickly and weak from convalescence, also to raise the moral depression from poverty, from grief, fear, or nostalgic

despondency,—these, debilitating, are certain predisponents to cholera.

4thly. Asiatic Cholera.—Should it burst forth, its primary symptoms* must be seized to awaken fears, and we must act promptly in anticipation of worse.

* Symptoms characteristic of Asiatic cholera as they mostly appear:—

1. Diarrhœa and vomiting, one or other, or both, of a fluid peculiar to Asiatic cholera, like thin water gruel, rice water, or to milk whey, barley water; insipid, and containing more or less floeculent pseudo-membranous matter floating in it, of albuminous nature; and the total cessation of the secretion and passage of urine.

2. Coldness of the extremities, rapid reduction of temperature, being more or less partial, peculiar, and persistent.

3. Lividity, blueness or blackness, or rusty red appearance of the skin.

4. Extinction of the pulse, and menace of asphyxia.

5. Spasmodic, tetanic, or clonic contractions, with more or less of cramps in the muscles of the body or the extremities.

6. Cholera voice.

7. Retracted cold tongue, stiffened; and eyes dim and deeply fixed in their sockets; with sunken cadaveric visage.

Symptoms considered most deadly, from rapid development:—

1. That of rapid development and extension of the blueness of body.

2. Cholera visage, cold breath and retracted tongue, and cholera voice.

3. Coldness and persistent cold of the extremities.

4. Rapid succession of cramps, their continuance, and the persistent tetanic or clonic muscular contractions.

5. The diarrhœa and vomiting, or their sudden cessation.

6. Extinction of the pulse at the extremities and carotids.

7. The cessation of the passing of water; a hope might, and less severity, be entertained if only a few drops were to pass.

The above will, from peculiarity of age, habit, constitution, and previous diseases, have some modifications naturally observed; though if there is cessation of the urine, without any other severe

Conceiving this cholera, as I do, a *neuropathic and paralyzing affection of the organs of secretion and assimilation, whereby excessive intestinal refluxion, excretion, and exhalation of a characteristic fluid is produced*, attended by its painful expulsion,* either by vomiting or the act of dejection from the bowels, with more or less of *clonic muscular spasms of the whole*

symptoms, that retention is fatal in itself, and the fatality is the more so if the retention is with the other symptoms.

Favourable symptoms :—1, return of perspiration ; 2, pulse ; 3, hiccough ; 4, passage of urine ; 5, wind.

* It has been observed, that the quantity of fluid ejected from the stomach and bowels is only comparatively great at first, as at last the quantity is not in proportion to the extraordinary efforts of the clonic spasms ; and its proportion is only increased by the more or less intolerance of the fluid drank ; therefore the fluid given should be that, as it were, dictated by the patient's own feeling and desire, whether it should be hot or cold, but no deception with the temperature by adding hot or cold water, ice, or any cordial or medicine, for nature will not be deceived : the sense for absorption is lost, and should be thrown by stimulant and excrementitious means into the stomach and bowels : when the reaction of the sense of absorption returns, we shall have created inordinate action, and added irritation to the mucous membrane and the nervous papillæ, to excite more or less local or symptomatic and sympathetic reaction of irritation, congestion, and inflammation, intestinal, renal, or cerebral, &c. ; just similar to the application of heat to a frost-bitten limb, the application of a sinapism or a blister to the skin of a child or a person who suffers from the incubation of an eruptive fever ; that when the reaction takes place to the surface, the surface being deeply affected by the topic, will have an additional depth of tissue affected, than would have been affected naturally, by the throwing off or throwing out of the innate diarrhœa. However, we should in cholera avoid complicated reactions ; and this, too, should have a reference to the peculiar habit and affection that the patient had been liable to previous to the attack of cholera.

length of the digestive canal, as the limbs; the action of which quickly deprives the individual of all muscular or mental exertion, from the poisonous retention in the blood of the secretions of bile and urine, which cease to flow and be expelled, thereby paralyzing and depressing rapidly, at the same time, the animal temperature of the body; rendering more or less flabby, livid, purple, cold, and clammy, the skin, deadly and insensible to feeling, losing its elasticity, and from the thinning which rapidly ensues the substance of the body soon assumes a close and death-like adhesion to the bones; also from the paralytic action on the nerves of secretion and assimilation, the brain's influence seems to be in arrest, in abeyance, conveying no sense of desire, nor impulse to the organs; life seems gradually to ebb unconsciously and unconcernedly away; it ebbs to terminate perceptibly fast to asphyxia,* without the expression of a regret from the patient, no sorrows, no tear, no saliva, no bile, no urine, no perspiration; only cold, clammy, faded exudation of the skin,† attended with, as it were, a metastatic

* This progression so rapidly to terminate in asphyxia, is from the increasing contraction of the diaphragm and the muscles of respiration. From the clonic spasmodic actions, the spasms in tetanus give an impossibility to take breath; in cholera, the impossibility is to retain the breath; in both cases the death is from asphyxia, by the continuance of the spasms unrelaxing till death.

† It would really seem a deadly and exhausting *metastasis* or *displaced perspiration* affecting the mucous, membranous, glandular, follicular development of the intestines, they being the only organs in algid, Asiatic, or epidemic cholera, furnishing secretions and excretions, but that so exorbitantly as to drain up and to paralyze all action in the other secreting organs. Epidemic

displacement of perspiration, with painful exhausting fluxion from within the bowels, the only secreting and excreting organ in cholera, and that exorbitant, from the glandular follicles and crypts of the bowels. The pale, cold, diminished, receded, stiffened, and dried tongue, cleaves to the clammy mouth; from the oppressed and burning heat of the chest, the breath from which feels as cold as the tongue and skin; the stifled sepulchral voice, with, as it were, a convulsive and impatient effort and movement, whizzes out the cry, and call incessantly for *cold water* to drink; with a glance as quick, of reproof, if the request is not immediately accorded. But the eye so vivid, so bright, is now dim and suffused with blood, half curtained by the lid, sunken into its socket, encircled by a halo of lividity, and when in repose between the cruel spasms, it is revolved and turned up by the action of the involuntary muscles of the organ. How trace the features? So hurried is the change, that the parent of the morning could not be recognised in the evening; the breath of life passing away, the expression is mouldered in death,

mic cholera appears, then, to be the reverse of the *sweating disease*, which appeared epidemically and so mortally, as recorded in the annals of medicine, some century ago,—the nature of which, like cholera, was not known; and in neither case, in cholera in particular, can we expect a surface to be capable of sufficient absorption and assimilation when it is actively engaged in throwing off, by secretion and excretion, fluid concentrated on it, and in such abundance as to literally bathe the surface: in such a state, then, is the mucous membrane of the intestinal canal in Asiatic cholera, and such also the skin in the sweating stage of ague; and in this stage do we expect absorption on the skin? never; and for that reason we await the cessation of the sweat, and only interfere before or after it.

and the being is as it were a living corpse, for the internal temperature of the body after death sinks only one-half to one degree of cold less than when alive. The cause of cholera God as yet only knows; the seat of cholera, that is conjectural, as all the very minute cadaveric examinations have only illustrated and discovered what hypothesis sought for; and we are still in the dark, to treat empirically and symptomatically a disease which, having once seen, can never be forgotten. Yet its main feature is a *paralysis in the secreting organs*. What is to be done must therefore be done quickly, seeing the *paralytic action of one set of nerves, concentrating in a succession of actions*, efforts on the ganglionic abdominal and spinal nerves, concentrating thereby the whole sense, impression, and act of life, on the gastro-intestinal canal, from the skin frigidly ceasing its functions; knowing, too, the insidious impression of *intense cold as paralyzing* to the forces, and being hyposthenic on the nervous system, debilitating, subtracting, preventing the nervous influx and impressions, suspending circulation and the secretions: perceiving, too, the kidneys in particular are bound in inactivity, the secretion of which, as the liver, is held retained, to add poison to the already coagulating, congealed, and defective blood, from having yielded its fluidity. We must act, and act promptly, with resolution, considering the effects to be a paralytic action on the organs of secretion and assimilation, through nervous influence.

We must—

- 1st. Restore the reaction of the skin by recalling the life to warmth, the capillary circulation, the secretion of copious perspiration, by prompt

measures ; as the greater the cold, and lividity, and blueness of the body, the greater peril.

2dly. Quiet the spasmodic retrograde action of the stomach and upper bowels ; checking the vomitings by ice, cold, or hot water.

3dly. Quiet the peristaltic action of the lower bowels, the tonic and spasmodic painful action of defecation on their contractions, by the reactives applied.

4thly. Examine into the past as well as the present state of the urinary organs ; as that of the biliary, for the long retention of the urine alone is fatal of itself.

5thly. Keep the patient tacit, as quiet as possible, well covered and warm in perspiration, in bed.

6thly. Keep the room warm, but ventilated ; and quiet and cheerful, without levity.

7thly. Give freely to drink, that is repeatedly ; cold water or ice to suck, in the hope that as tolerated drinks from the mass, after the above attentions, assimilation and the secretions might be aided and awakened to action : besides satisfying the cravings for drink, the fluid passes through the tissues, if only by simple imbibition, to soften them till nature reacts by the return of the secretions ; and, if the patient should thirst for hot drinks, give hot water, water either way, and only water, till reaction and assimilating life return.

Then, first place, if possible, the patient in a warm bath ; a ready extempore vapour one might be made by seating the patient on a cane chair, well covered in blankets, the feet plunged in a hot salt-and-water foot

bath, then placing under the chair a large kettle of boiling water, removing cautiously, little by little, the lid, so as to allow by degrees the escape of the steam ; when a good burst of perspiration is established, to keep it up by the patient wearing a warm flannel body dress ; on leaving the steam to lie in the blankets in the bed, to be well covered by other blankets, carded wool, or sheep-skin rugs ; in fact, any thing soft, warm, and light, and additional warmth to the localities of the body where chill, cold, or cramps have been habitually felt ; or it would be well to anticipate their recurrence by placing, as said of diarrhœa, carded wool to the loins, the arm-pits, the stomach, and bowels ; as hot bottles, bladders of hot water, or bricks, irons to the sides, between the limbs, and to the hands and feet particularly.*

* It has been recently remarked, that in India, at Madras, an heroic remedy is formed, in the first instance by plunging the feet into a *hot salt-and-water* foot-bath, keeping up the temperature of the water, and on the rising of the dorsal or sub-malleolar (ankle) veins, to open them to allow free bleeding, till the water of the bath is *deeply reddened by the flow of the blood* ; at the same time, keeping the body warm, to produce reactionary and the only salutary perspiration—the drink being conjee, or rice water, cold. Now this practice we readily adopt, because cholera Asia-tica is with universal congestion, stagnation of blood, congealing from the loss of serous fluid in the viscera of the abdomen and chest : this blood-letting will be certainly most salutary to relieve and give a flow to circulation, and taking off the paralyzing congestion on the central cerebro-spinal nerves of secretion and reaction, and this most especially in the sanguineous, athletic, or robust individuals of great visceral abdominal development. The treatment is anticipating, paralyzing congestion and asphyxia, which if judiciously applied, it heroically relieves ; a treatment far better than was vaunted and practised in the North of Europe, the giving

As the thirst is intense and unceasing, accord willingly and freely a measure of a good table-spoonful of cold pump water, to be drank every three or five minutes or so, until ice can be procured, when pieces of the size of a nutmeg or small walnut might be held to melt in the mouth ; but often the eager impatience to obtain the cold draught is such, that the eyes will flash with delight, and the arms will be outstretched (improper effort and exposure allowed) to grasp the glass or piece of ice, with hands that often can but ill direct it to the protruded mouth, when, with exulting and characteristic greediness, the one will be gulped down, as if falling noisily through a dry hollow tube, the other will be fearlessly crunched down in an instant, with importuning for more. Such is the heat of the mouth and throat, that the ice will melt in a moment, and often, large pieces of it are swallowed whole into the stomach, a practice advised by some, which only

hot spicy drinks, and the application of cold by friction of ice on the chest and bowels, to produce a reaction ; as if the cold of cholera was similar to that of being frost-bitten. The intense cold of Asiatic cholera is not from external physical paralyzing action of the nerves, by rapid abstraction of the animal heat, causing external lividity and internal organic congestion, &c., but the generation of intense cold from an internal pathological, toxical influence on the cerebro-spinal nerves, paralyzing the organic secreting nerves ; the loss of heat is by the action of fluxion by the bowels and the depression of all nervous energy. Give the ice and cold water internally to drink, to alleviate the excessive heat and thirst, and to take off the oppressive sense of suffocation as if by asphyxia ; but apply externally, at the same time, abundant and universal warmth, as speedily and continually as possible, to produce the only salutary reaction, abundant perspiration ; and on so sudden an emergency, there is none so readily and steadily kept up as vital animal bodily heat at hand.

requires a caution to the patient to be guided by his own feelings, and to the attendance as to the frequency of its administration, alternating the ice with iced water or the cold pump water. If the desire of the patient is for hot water, give it most freely. The cold water, the ice-water, and the piece of ice, so eagerly importuned for, is a heroic remedy. The cold, cautiously, moderately, and successively thrown into the stomach, acts as a sedative to the nerves in spasm, takes off the electric tension, dissipates the heat and fire complained of within, dilutes the poison, adds to the fluidity of the blood, supports the salutary perspiration sought for, and, as it is only excrementitious to the skin, the kidneys, and the lungs, by the breath, it dissipates in the stomach and upper bowels, where its absorption and assimilation should take place, to produce the reactionary secretion of the skin and kidneys.

I have known a person giving so much trouble to her attendants from incessantly asking to drink, that inhumanely a bucket of cold water, with a cup, were placed together within her reach by her miserable bedside, and she was then left to help herself: finding herself alone, contentedly she drank, and entirely emptied the bucket, and asked for more, but with a stronger and more menacing voice, to the astonishment and disappointment of her children, who expected the mother would die of the cholera *. Fortunately—

* It has come to my knowledge from two authentic sources, two cases of cholera, in which inordinate drinking allowed, was, to the surprise and inexpectance of all, attended with speedy cures. The first case runs thus:—A *pic-nic* party at Maidenhead was formed before the cholera raged epidemically and was known specially as a unique disease. In the midst of its enjoyment, the

though it was the least they would afford to give their parent, it was the best they could offer (filial love is

maid-servant of the party was suddenly taken ill with *fits* of spasm, cramps—with all the symptoms of Asiatic cholera—cold and blue skin, clonic spasm of the limbs, as stated by Mr. G——, a medical man, who was of the party. She with all her sufferings retained her senses. As they were distant from any place of help, and having no medicines, the only resort for succour was to take her to a house of a peasant hard by. She complained of great cold and intense thirst as the most that distressed her, with a voice scarcely audible. At the hut, asking for warm water to drink, it so happened that a large pot of water was over the fire; the inmates, thinking it was for fomentation, brought in a pailful of it in the room where they had humanely given up their bed, on which the patient was lying. The hot water she drank by glassfuls at a time, eagerly; but with the remonstrance of Mr. G.; he fearing great harm would come of such *intolerant* drinking: she, however, continued drinking until she finished the pail of water, which, of course, had chilled down long ere this. Having emptied this, she called for more, and a second pail of hot water was given her, the greater part of which she drank. She was well covered up by things, to be warm, got into profuse perspiration, and by the evening had perfectly recovered. The natural secretions returned, with the evacuations and the urine perfect; and, mind! nothing more was done, nor, from the situation and place, could be done, and done with fear, though nature dictated. Mr. G. declared since, he never saw afterwards a more perfect case of cholera.

The second case runs:—During the raging of the cholera at Henley, every medical man was so occupied, that even young apprentices went to see patients. In this emergency, a Mr. B——d, then a novice, was urged to go and see a little boy, aged twelve, dreadfully seized with cholera. He found the little patient so urgent with his thirst, that, to *control him*, a *medical authority* was required. Young Mr. B. looked on, and said what he could, but could not find argument to overrule the *desire* for the *incessant cold water to drink*, nor could he advise any remedy but that which every body knew. The little patient most ur-

not proverbially good in Paris), when the chance of a most pitiable succession only is at hand. The drinking *ad libitum*, followed by some, does not always meet the toleration of the stomach and bowels; perhaps from individual peculiarities, or because the assimilative absorption of it does not convey it readily through the system, to be thrown off by the awakened secretions of the skin, kidneys, saliva, tears—as the evaporation from the lungs in the breath. Nature, however, tells when this is the case, for then the thirst abates*, often before the sense of intolerance of the

gently and incessantly sighed for drink, refusing all but the cold water, which was given him, with, ah, poor fellow! it will kill him. The liberty to drink allowed, he drank and drank, and, of course, was well covered up—being so cold—and, to the astonishment of all, fell asleep, and was found to burst into a profuse perspiration; waking from which, *unexpectedly*, he said he felt quite well, and would drink no more then. Can it be believed, that these cures led to no other result than astonishment!—no practical result, nor inquiry, as a natural consequence? No: they were related to astonish, as wonderful “cscapes!” Why?

* Some patients have objected to cold water drinking, and some practitioners have yielded to their simple desire, from the fear of increasing the chill and the deadly cold—as causing and keeping up the diarrhœa. This objection to the cold drinking will be taken off by the large, ample, and continued application of warmth to the whole surface of the body; on which application of general heat, the cold drinking will be tolerated, and be felt of the greatest comfort, also will the suffocating feel and impression of the extensive heat applied be taken off, which otherwise, from the increasing effect of the asphyxia from the blood clogging up the lungs, would be most intolerably felt and apprehended: thus a compensation by the draughts of cold water or sucking ice would be given to equalize the feelings under the most prompt and efficient means, to promote the only reaction of safety—that of profuse perspiration by the skin; checking, I may say, the profuse perspiration by the bowels diluting the poison.

stomach; the tongue is freer, and moist from the secretion of the saliva, and the voice strengthens; the patient demands less drink, and often exclaims, what must I drink more? When this is observed, there is a returning glow, with warmth and perspiration easily kept up on the skin; the countenance, more or less reddened, is beamy and calm, and a desire felt for sleep. When at this fortunate stage of reaction, inquiry should be had to the functions of the kidneys and the state of the bladder, as, from the dormant action, the bladder might be found, unknowingly, distended, and too weak to contract, and it may thus freely rise up in the empty abdomen, where space from emptiness is found; or the obstruction might be from a mass of agglutinating, thick, plastic, mucous exudation, clogging up the urethra and the neck of the bladder; therefore, if water has not passed, or if a little has passed, and the bladder, by percussion, is felt to be distended and risen high above the pubis, the urine must be drawn off by the catheter, or else in the midst of our joy, after the sleep of reaction, we may have urinary absorption and urinary fever*; so,

* It has been argued that the suppression of the secretion of the kidneys, as that of the liver and skin, is from the inordinate action of the bowels; that these fluids pass undetected through the bowels with the excess of its secretion. We must not satisfy ourselves thus, however inordinate the secretion of the skin by perspiration. The activity of the kidneys, and the liver and bowels, will cease; but still we shall not find a total suppression of the secretion of the kidneys: the urine, scanty, will pass,—if in a few drops, it will be highly concentrated; but even the passage of that drop, in Asiatic cholera, is a bountiful hope and sign of life and secretive action. So, with a slight purge, bile will be brought down, however excessive the sweat of the skin.

also, if the bowels remain long without acting, a simple emulsion of sweet oil of almonds or castor oil might be given, &c.

The diet, in convalescence, must be strictly of slops—no soups, broths, nor solids, bread, or biscuit: it is much safer to adhere to spoon-diet, with rice gruel*,

* With regard to the selection of rice as a diet for those habitually affected with deranged bowels, whether taken as a precaution and prophylactic, or as a remedy in diarrhœa, in sporadic cholera, or on the convalescence of those affections,—as in Asiatic cholera,—care must be taken in the selection of the rice, as in the preparation of it. In the selection, Carolina rice is not only of a finer and larger grain, but it contains a greater purity and quantity of amylaceous matter, and is freer from vegetable blight and disease. The Indian or Patna rice, small in grain, and browner, is not altogether so free from blight and vegetating imperfections, and is less amylaceous, and contentive and binding. The China or Java rice is notoriously uncertain and bad, is still smaller than the Indian, and browner, and is more or less with black specks and points, a sort of blight from disease in the vegetation, as, in a manner, the blight of wheat, and particularly the rye, the grain of which is more or less covered, destroying the amylaceous matter. This Java rice proverbially is known to give diarrhœa and cholera to the poor who indiscriminately feed abundantly on it.

Carolina rice, to be absorbent and astringent in the digestion, must be half boiled to be firm—each grain being separated as if for curry. It will in this state absorb the fluids of the stomach and the bowels, the bile, and will bind in the digestion to check the peristaltic movement of the bowels. The rice, being boiled well, soft, and pulpy—or as gruel—will soothe, comfort, and poultice the bowels; but will, instead of being binding and astringent, from its volume and softness—not imbibing more fluid, being already saturated—it will pass to relax easily the bowels, but without pain or fermentescence: hence the difference of taking rice in the grain, and rice in the form of gruel or ground rice.

barley meal, sago, milk, and boiled bread, or tea with bread soaked in it; and this for a day or two or more, according to antecedents and individuals, as from the previous affections lingering in chronic abeyance in the system; for, be it remembered, there can be a relapse and return of cholera: hence nature must not be forced: it has been the digestive organs that have been deranged, and *paralytically* stricken and weakened in their power of absorption and assimilation.

Cholera does not yield so readily; and why?—from its complications, as it will occur independently of any other inherent affection, and be intercurrent with them, running its own course, dominating all, extinguishing none. And should the patient survive the cholera, the system is left with a constitution shook to its foundation, a prey to its previous ailments and maladies, and fortunate he must feel, if none other new have been awakened and engendered through the ravage of treatment.

Should the cholera, then, be algide, severely intense, we should redouble our energies to meet its exigencies: independently of what has been done in the foregoing case, we must amply and largely cover the surface of the body with pungent reactive cataplasms or poultices, not only to create, but to maintain reactionary warmth.

After the impromptu salt foot-bath, the cane-chair vapour-bath (or a high bench or stool made of crossed sticks), the steam might be made stimulant or aromatic; or to whip the limbs and body with stinging nettles before the baths if possible, if the skin is *naturally insensible* to retain perspiration, or by having boiled

in the water, or throwing instantaneously into the water of the vapour-bath, vinegar, ground mustard, pepper, the hay dust from the hay-loft,—garden aromatics, as the mints, sage or garlic, horse-radish; or spirits of turpentine, ammonia, &c.—one or the other, or in combination, as can best be immediately procured: during which time of bath, a bed might be prepared; when so, the water of the bath should be used to saturate a large thick flannel, or doubles of cloth,—an old garment. The patient, prepared in a flannel dress, should hurriedly betake himself to bed, to have, on the skin, applied this aromatic fomentation, to be sufficient to cover the stomach and bowels, and the limbs to be well covered to retain the heat; the which, by a proper arrangement, would last till more efficient means arrive. If, then, warmth and reaction by this means have not been obtained, we must, as stated, cover the surface of the body by a monster epithem.

This monster epithem saves the inefficient and tiring servitude of the attendance, which, with all the labour and frictions, do no good but a seeming attention; on the contrary, it exposes the surface to chills; by its movement it disturbs the reactionary impulse to the skin; it shakes the patient to awaken the return of the horrible clonic* spasms. The patient, as the

* The clonic spasms, convulsions, the pain and suffering in cholera, have recently found a remedy in the judicious and moderate *administration of the vapour of chloroform*. It has been given internally by the stomach, but reliance is to be given to the form of vapour, for the lungs, we know, *keep up the life by absorbing the oxygen of the air in breathing*; the assimilation of the stomach and bowels are, we know, also *stricken with a deadly inactive absorbent action*: hence, *for a certainty of*

attendants, are held on the watch and “qui vive” for the spasms,—the one expecting, the other expectant,—the one to be relieved, the other to relieve, watching but to disturb each other,—deceiving and being deceived; for the patient, if he moves, raises a false alarm; yet his feelings never misgive him, for in cholera he feels only to express thirst and the pain of spasms; and if not so bad, he may strive to endure,

action, give to inhale the chloroform, to check the spasms, and the convulsions and inordinate sensibility of the congested spinal nerves.

It may be asked, do not these spasms, as a consequence of pathological congestion, indicate the reason of the physical action and effort of the nerves, so congested, to shake off, to ease themselves of the constriction—to awaken, by the violent spasmodic effort, the flow of the congested blood, which stagnates at their origin, centre, and distribution? How do we explain tic douloureux, toothache, headache? Is it not from compression of the nerve on its acquiring bulk from congestion of the blood, the which impedes the free transit of the circulation from want of room through the osseous foramina, the compression and stricture of which on the nerve causes spasms and convulsive efforts, as in the tic. Post-mortem examination will *little* warrant this. Yet does the post-mortem examination give evidence and detection of any trace on the skin of the violence of an erysipelas, of scarlet fever, of measles, or erythema? After death, the surrounding tissues allow of the escape and dispersion, recedence of the eruption, and congestion of blood, by physical imbibition. The fear of causing a further and greater congestion by the use of the chloroform in cholera, should be removed, when we consider that at this present call for its use the spasm and congestion are in the abdominal and thoracic viscera. The relief of the spasms and clonic convulsions will be to give relaxation and freedom to circulation: taking off the paralytic congestion of blood in the texture of the nerves, as allowing the free circulation, also, of the nervous fluid, in the establishment of a healthy reaction on the skin, &c.

to try to feel more correctly, not to give trouble, for he sees he fatigues his attendant, who, with a "Now, sir!"—all impatient and ready—brush or flannel in hand, reeks with perspiration in doing his part: but how futile! it is not only injudicious, but it often becomes, when many are present, a kind of farce: as with the nurse in the lying-in room, each, Gramerey! then wish to give a helping hand. Yet, alas! it comes to pass that not even that hand, which at any other time, from its softness, acting from the heart that guides it, would be balm, has now no power, no electric feel, no magnetic touch; it conveys no feeling, no sense of pleasure, nor weight of importance,—it is felt as an act, a will, a wish, a solace to the mind to do good, &c.; it does nothing but to awaken and create pain and fatigue, and the waste of time. It is not the limb that wants friction; it is the heart, the lungs, the circulation of the blood internally, that want the stimulating movement! No: leave the cholera patient motionless; apply the requisite warmth, remove that which is to be removed, but do not rub nor stir the patient,—do not importune him to talk; check his conversation, his anxiety about himself, and about others; and let that hand that would be effective, with all surrounding, seem cheerful and happy; to administer the drink—cold water and the ice—alternately, or the hot water, or aromatic tea, or weak camphor julep, for the less we interfere with nature here the better*; what nature dictates we

* From what has been observed on post-mortem examinations in Asiatic cholera, a hint for experimentation might have been taken by those who persist in the use of drugs in Asiatic cholera. To prove and to be convinced of the non-absorption and assimilation, let the pills, the powders, or the mixtures

should follow. On *the reaction*, practitioners will have quite enough to do to discriminate, to follow, to bring

given, be coloured, and they will then find that the sero-albuminous mass of fluid in the intestines will hold them in suspension at one or other part of the canal: the less we interfere with drugs *a priori*, when cholera has strongly developed, the better, for the pills given have been found not dissolved; and do not deceive ourselves. Large doses of calomel, every hour, will pass as grey or blue matter in the stools, as Æthiops mineral; the powders, too, will be found, and the draughts and mixtures will be detected by their colour, if coloured; if clear solutions, *chemical tests* will discover them in the bowels; for what surface will absorb, assimilate, whilst under active secretion and excretion? No: medicines, in severe cholera, *are useless*, from want of absorption and assimilation. The organs of secretion—all save that from the crypts and follicles of the intestines—are stricken with a paralytic action; and the excretion is only active from the bowels by exudation, produced by the clonic spasmodic action of contraction, and is as expulsive. The skin, as the stomach and the intestines, is deadened in action; the latter from being bathed with an excess of fluid contained in them. Also, should they produce any action, the drugs given, on the return of the secretions from absorption, the effect will be distress and to continue, perhaps, the action of cholera, or to produce other disorders, of a highly inflammatory nature—of stomach, bowels, or kidneys, or the brain. Intense cholera is only, and can only be, relieved by profuse perspiration, and kept off by early checking the diarrhœa, and exciting a perspiration by slops, for at the breaking out of the cholera in Paris in 1832, the popular impression was, that it was a government affair, by which they profited to distribute through the medical men poisons to thin the redundant population of Paris,—that the profession went about in fear as the water carriers, as many were seriously molested, to be thrown over the bridges into the river. The fear of poison was so general, that, when I was called in, as I volunteered my services for the public good, on seeing the poor patients they would not take a thing that was ordered to come from the apothecaries' or other pharmaciens: they would only do, or take, that

to a favourable issue ; to administer to, when the organs again recover, to *absorb* and to *secrete*, on the *palsy* leaving them, and the nerves to freely act and react.

which, on being prescribed, they could well know, make, or furnish at home. I remonstrated, and said it was treatment like depriving a dove of its wings, and then to throw it out at the window expecting it to fly. No matter ; all argument was unavailing. Were we helpless ? no, nor inactive. On examination of the cases, we followed the dictates of nature in each individual case, and prescribed. Hence followed the draughts of cold water, the sucking of ice, the leeching, the bleeding, the poulticing, the sinapisms, the bathing, the monster sinapinal cataplasms, &c. &c., to remove the concentrating effects on the bowels, to react on the skin, producing salutary profuse perspiration ; and happy we were to have profited, and to have followed the dictates of nature, for we found the reaction frank, and the convalescence free from any medicinal disease tormenting, and (if not attended with a fatality) embittering the days and nights, for weeks and months after the cholera had fairly quitted—for cholera, be it recollected, only passes through the constitution, strikes it, and, if not fatal, quits it. We know well how it should leave us ; but how it takes us, God only knows.

To resume : in cholera, from the external and internal decreasing cold, inaction and absorption are wanting ; so, like a frost-bitten limb applied to the fire, the reactive suffering after returning life is great ;—so it is with cholera on administration of stimulants and specific drugs ; the rapid absorption afterwards produces fatal medicinal effects. Do we sow seeds when the ground is frozen ? or, having sown, do we not cover by a warm dressing the land, or do we rake, agitate it about ? There is in man at times a vegetating and organic life—like winter-plants, more strong than at others—witness the state of Asiatic cholera, exhibiting in the animal frame the effects of winter in plants. And why does the “do-nothing” homœopathic humbug practice profess to cure ? It is because in cholera they do nothing, nor follow nature, but allow the cholera patient in the reaction to die from “doing nothing.” As stimulants are often the cause of cholera—and these stimulants are often taken in the premonitory

The monster epithem, then, to do its office in extreme and severe cases of algide blue cholera, must—

symptoms, and often to a very great extent by the patient's own accord, or sometimes advisedly by the profession, the reaction of which being great and inflammatory, and congestive to the brain, or the lungs, liver, &c.—require very prompt and active treatment. Bleeding, leeching, cupping, blistering, purging, particularly by the oil of almonds or castor oil, or the use of sinapisms, cataplasms, &c., with the maintenance for a long time after of a strict, low, and sparing diet; for the system might, in the cholera, be left harmless by it, or the things taken, or the effects might be deep, severe, and otherwise fatal, if not actively, properly, and cautiously treated. From symptoms attending the cholera, it is far more advisable practice to cause a reactive stimulation externally, than internally, for externally, if it should run violent, we could see the extent, and control it, as has often been unintentionally the case in cholera,—in fact, similar to that so often produced in the cold stage of intermittent fever. And how do we handle that disease in the cold stage? though cholera is not an intermittent disease, nor fever, but a persistent, algide, cold, paralyzing, and purging disease, as the caloric of the body, rapidly diminishing, continues escaping till it is cadaveric. When the last cold breath is given on the death, the temperature of the body only lowers, and this is only peculiar to cholera—one-half or one degree less, according to the rapidity of the change from life to death. And the cold of cholera does not commence generally by chills and horripilations, creeping sense of cold on the surface of the body, as observed to be the case in other affections and irritations. It presents itself first at the tips of the fingers and toes, gains up the limbs, to be felt at the posterior part of the body,—as the arms and thighs, loins, back, and shoulders, stopping at the external sides of the chest; it does not seize the whole of the chest, nor is it found at the abdomen, the epigastrium, the forehead, the scalp of the head, nor the middle of the spinal vertebral column. This cold is often not felt, the lividity only seen, and the life of the body may be said to be only where the chill is not. And this chill of skin is not with the appearances as is said of “goose-skin,” but is wrinkled,

1st, cover, from the fore part of the neck, the stomach and bowels, down to the thighs, covering the pubis. It should be made of well boiled meal, bran, chaff, or any of the means already enumerated, and it should be about two inches thick in a cloth; the cloth being well powdered with the flour of mustard, if possible, or something at hand stimulating — as pepper, wood ashes, brine-salt, the pulp of garlic pounded, or horseradish, oil of turpentine, strong vinegar, salt, &c.; but a thick surface of mustard would be the best. 2ndly. Each limb should have a separate one, from the hip down the leg to the instep. Care should be taken to cover the knee-joints, as the ankle-joints, from the action of the mustard or the stimulants, by wrapping them separately up in flannel, saturated with camphorated oil, of greased linen, or brown paper.

These monster cataplasms or plasters may remain on the parts four hours, or according to the sense of irritation they give feeling to. They should be covered to retain their heat by oiled silk, tar-cloth, oil-cloth,

dying, adhering to the parts it covers, with a shining aspect. The lividity and blue skin of cholera comes on, then, in as rapid a proportion as the diarrhoea and vomiting are severe; the pulse becomes extinct, from paralysis of action of the heart and arteries with the coagulating blood. The circulation is only tardy in the veins, and this perhaps only from the spasms; the contractions of which mostly begin at the fingers and toes,—affecting partially or generally only the upper or lower extremities, singly or simultaneously, suspending the respiration; the voice, sunken, too, from the retraction of the tongue, receding—as the eyes—into the head; and the cholera voice is but the expulsive effort, uncertain as the action of the clonic spasms of the respiratory muscles, and is scarcely audible.

skins, a mackintosh, blankets, &c., so as to confine the heat.

The drink to be cold water, and to have ice if possible, and to watch the reactions under the effects of the plasters—the stimulant being placed on the naked skin.

If head ache, apply cold water, or one part of vinegar to five of water, or a spoonful of salt to a pint of cold water, or blister behind the ears.

If pain of throat, and great dryness and viscosity of clammy mucus, or sore-throat, apply round the neck a pad or poultice in a cloth, made of well-boiled linseed meal, bran, or chaff, &c.

If great oppression, sense of suffocation, is felt at the chest, apply twenty or more leeches, and a simple poultice—allowing the bites to bleed, or else to form a blister instantanly by the application for a moment of a double of linen, of the size of the hand, steeped into boiling water, the water being compressed previously out—fearing it would spread; or better far to use an iron steeped in boiling water.

If violent spasms and cramps in the arms, raise, suddenly, a similar blister between the shoulders, covering it with a soft poultice of the above, or of the boiled carrot, turnip, leeks, greens, marsh-mallow,—indeed the water they are boiled in will form the blister,—preparing, in anticipation, the means for the poultice; if objected to, apply a mustard plaster.

If violent cramps and spasms of the limbs, the thighs, or legs, apply the instantan blister to the loins, either side, or both sides, and poultice after, or apply a long and large mustard plaster along the spine.

These blisters and mustard plasters have the double advantage of efficient quickness, and no fear of strangury if the kidneys were disposed to secrete urine.

If, on the reaction, these blisters, or the skin anywhere, should be under great irritation where the stimulants have been applied, sift thickly over the part, twice or thrice a day, some flour of wheat, or starch in powder, or charcoal powder, or common chalk in powder, or arrow root, or potatoe flour, which will cool the skin, absorb the discharge and heat. The part might be covered with a piece of linen or not.

Practitioners, as myself, have had leeches and the cupping-glasses applied, to extract blood from these localities, and might in some habits be preferable; but the blister relieves without exposure to cold, &c.

As the cold drinks in the asphyxia of cholera are so requisite for the stomach, cold air is also required for the lungs; therefore the room should be ventilated now and then, by the doors or windows being thrown open for five or ten minutes occasionally; for be it known, that whilst the cold water or ice have been so freely taken, the lungs have also received the refreshing air during the melting of the ice in the mouth, as a cooling passage to gratify the lungs. Besides, too, the local application of the cold in the mouth and throat imparts to the base of the brain a cooling influence through the nerves; so that the cry for cold water is threefold nature's wants. Likewise, does it not abate the ardent burning heat of the chest; does it not renew the loss of the fluids; does it not liquefy the blood by its assimilation and absorption, and from its purity it

leaves no residuum ; and, cautiously given, requires no active digestion, and is not excrementitial.*

The room of the cholera patient should be cheerful, without trifling ; the attendanee should be ready willing friends and relatives ; the bed should stand out to circulate round, if possible ; no curtains. The patient should not be conversed with ; he should remain silent—tacit ; should hear no sinister news, no business ; no reports of bad omen should meet his ear. Should he sleep, his body and limbs should be felt if warm ; if not, add warmth and covering, for his sleep might be long and deep, and he should awaken refreshed and in a glow. As his sleep might be that of exhaustion, or, on cerebral congestion, the professional could tell ; but be ready at his awaking and impatient call for drink, as his shaken nerves will not bear delay.

The moral has a great influence in cholera. We have heard of fear operating on the mind to produce

* The drinks should be non-excrementitial—water, and water alone ; and when stated to be cold—ice cold ; the cry of nature dictated its administration, as an individual instinctive want. There might be found some cholera patients, the natural feeling and idiosyncrasy of which might be that with the cry for hot water. Give them, in God's name, hot water ; for hot water, as ice cold water, are both preventive of vomiting, and antispasmodic paradoxically, and sedative to the nerves ; and if for hot water be the cry, let the air of the room breathed be warm, to be consistent. Such, then, would be rational practice ; for the internal and intestinal feeling of the one cholera-stricken patient will be with the sense of a burning heat, as if fire was in the entrails, whilst the other will as vehemently complain of an icy cold feeling in the entrails. Quench the heat of the one with cold, and the cold of the other with hot water ; either, if the nature of the feeling instinctively dictates.

cholera ; likewise great bursts of passion ; love, the abuse of, from its depression. Joy, I apprehend, does not efficiently enough electrify the senses to ward off cholera. However, the fact is, that whatever operates on the feelings from the mind, operates on the body ; and whatever the condition of the body, so is more or less the condition of the mind. Some organs have influence more than others, and this organic influence differs in individuals ; so, in the same individual, the organic influence may change at times and at seasons. Thus new and unexpected influences might arise to operate in both mind and body ; and the continuance of action of one on the other must have a correlative and proportionate reaction. Hence likes and dislikes in families ; the feeling of calm and comfort in the presence of some, disquietude and discomfort in the presence of others. Is this state of being, this ever-changing—is it electrical, is it animal magnetism ; or is it the inexplicable intricacies of nature ? for the disliked one might become the adored one—the once adored the now despised. Sickness engenders these feelings. The apathy, the indifference of the cholera patient, is from his *paralytic and powerless moral and physical state* ; yet in them there is sufficient moral left to feel ; it is a want of power, and not a careless apathy to express. For the truth of this we have only to question the sudden move and regard of their distressed and, as it were, fugitive countenance. Certainly many have died with the moral feeling of neglect by their kin ; they have no fears, but see it in others, and do not understand it in themselves. As to a will, no voice is left scarcely to dictate one ; no power left

to sign one ; yet the mind lives to see, but not to feel, its body die.

Surround, then, the cholera patient with true friends and good. Let us disavow morally all fear, too, of contagion of cholera, to popularize its treatment. Has it not been sufficiently known that mothers have died of cholera, and their infants found still hanging on and crying at their breasts famishing with hunger, finding their Mammas dry, because of having already exhausted and drained the last drop of cholera milk ? These children have lived, and why ? Because the cholera is not contagious.

Have not several courageous men* slept in the sheets and beds, worn the linen of cholera patients, tasted of, and, in the heat and ardour of post-mortem pursuits, besmeared their skins, besides having intentionally inoculated themselves, with the cholera fluids ? What proof more is wanting ? Courage ; moral courage. On this head I can offer some remarkable cases.

I was sent for in June, 1832 or 1833, to see a friend, a lady, suffering with cholera. I found her in bed, livid, and as cold as marble, with spasms, cramps, &c. I ordered the means to promote speedy warmth and perspiration. Just at that moment, her husband, a French officer, returned home off duty. Finding what was the matter, and what I had ordered, he promised, if that was all, he would soon get her into a perspiration. I left them. In the evening, on my visit, this was what had transpired : when he had

* Dr. F. Foy.

closed the doors after me, he deliberately undressed himself; gave his wife a draught ordered; got into bed to her, and elapsing his cold and livid cholera-stricken wife (an Irish lady) in his arms, he whispered comfort, consolation, and courage in her ears—administering to her thirst—until, from under the same ample covering of blankets, profuse perspiration and warmth was equally diffused and felt by both; when she was left asleep and well covered, to keep it up. Contrast what were the feelings and the expression of voice when she awoke. By this prompt reaction was secured her speedy recovery. The next day, though she kept to her bed, she felt herself well.

In the second instance, it was the devotion of a daughter for her delicate mother, who was stricken with cholera. The horror of the young girl on seeing her so changed, and feeling her so cold, and hearing her complaining of suffering so much, cannot be described. After the professional visit, the redoubled cries of her dear mother instinctively operated on her vital energies so deeply, so naturally, that, waving all scruples, she undressed herself, jumped into the bed, caressed, and comforted, and warmed her dearest and best friend. A calm and salutary reaction took place, and after a short time she ultimately recovered; and where was the dreaded contagion?*

* I am told by Mr. P——, a very clever artist, who knew of the fact, that, during the rage of the cholera in Ireland, at Westmeath, a young man was seized with it, when a young female, his sweetheart, hearing of the circumstance, and finding him so wretchedly suffering with pain, so forlorn and cold in his bed, was roused into the greatest state of excitement, and as if by inspiration, under the influence of devotion, she fancied that by

Certainly other similar heroic and courageous examples of the kind in cholera could no doubt be recorded; but the act, from being spontaneous, genuine, natural, humane, unadvised, ingenuous, remains, it must seem, enshrined and embosomed in the family ordeals.

Human warmth has been resorted to of old, and in very many cases.* Have we not, too, the history of

her warmth she could recover him. It was proposed, his permission received, and in a trice she undressed herself entirely, and stepped into bed to him, and cuddled him up so closely and firmly in her embraces, that she soon got warmth in him, with most copious perspiration. This prompt reaction saved him; and, as her reward, he immediately afterwards made her his partner for life by marrying her. This heroic deed is well known, and was considered an act of devotion, a spell, a despair on the part of the girl—wondered at, and what would become of both was talked about; but when all was well no medical inference was drawn from it—no idea taken as to the communicated human bodily heat, and its magnetic and electric influence, to form a part of practice against the chill of cholera. Yet if a healthy individual should lie on marble, its chill will excite the vital energy of the body to renew the heat, to resist the cold of the marble, and the marble in contact will become of a temperature equal to that of the body. So the healthy body in contact with ice, with snow; the ice will be thawed to freeze on the outside of the dress, to be impervious, and the snow will gradually melt; and if this individual is entirely enveloped, his healthy warmth will form, on the gradual melting of the snow, a cavern to canopy, shelter, and preserve him from further external chill, by confining the warmth. Thus cattle, sheep, and men, have been preserved by active, healthy, regenerating animal heat, under snow drifts and avalanches of moderate weight and impulse.

* Of old.—Read the 1st chapter of the Book of Kings, from the 1st verse, in the Old Testament, how King David, stricken in years, could not engender heat, though covered with soft and warm clothes, had a young damsel to lie with him, to cherish, to

the foundation of the noble house of Bentinck ? And could not Sir Philip Crampton, I believe, speak somewhat eogently on bodily heat thus eommunicated years ago, in a celebrated ease of parehed and intense fever, baffling all attempts to gain relief by perspiration, save that by human heat, to a moribund Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. These are offees better by far than can be performed by hot bottles, stupes, &c. the heat of which dies away, whilst that of bodily heat is always maintaining, and even increasing. Imagine the warm embrace of a husband, a wife, a son, a daughter, a comrade, a friend. Do none such exist in families—in mutual societies—in the army and the navy ? Could no messmate be found to revive, to rekindle, life, warmth, and comfort, by such ineubation, embrace, and covering ? Divest cholera of the fear of contagion, free the minds of men, and many will volunteer to eommunicate their hearty warmth, to save from the freezing chill of death a friend. Let us expect frequent cures from its timely application ; for who now

comfort, to minister warmth, by which alone heat could be kept in him, from that constantly emanating from her body.

Let us imagine, too, a large bulky person just stricken with the chill of cholera, what friction, and what topic, will regenerate and keep up warmth, save that of a warm bath, constantly renewed, or the close contact of two persons in place of one to the patient. The chill of ague would be fatal, if the nature of the complaint was not to pass into the natural reaction of a hot and sweating stage.

Sydenham, too, recommending and having recourse in his own case to bodily heat, was accused of immoral practice in his old age—a rebuke then, as it would be now, the emanation of profligate minds.

can say but that, in the first dawn and outbreak of cholera, the surest reaction and preservation of the fatal freezing refluxion from the skin could be averted, if a prompt, devoted, and heroic mortal would step boldly forward as man to man, to embrace and hold fast from death a fellow creature, a friend, a parent, under ample folds? It is done for infants and children, and why not as freely for adults? Grant that we may in such wise hear and read of other cases of a confident embrace, in the hope of saving from cholera wives and mothers, messmates and friends, &c. &c.!

As to the prophylactic of cholera, it is said by some, to wash and be clean; by others, to take on the itch. All I know is, that those having eruptions, blisters, setons, issues, have them to dry up whilst suffering under cholera; though the eruptions that are constitutional for the most part reappear on the recovery from the cholera.

As a prophylactic and preventive of cholera Asiatica, it has been advised to conform to a meat diet; to take no purgatives of a saline or cooling nature; to smoke tobacco; to swallow camphor. God knows how many other things. In fact, it is advising people to live in fear and in risk, by changing their habits. Why some, to eat a meat diet, will require purging; and would be best relieved by that which is forbidden, and harmed by that recommended. To smoke tobacco is to sicken and purge thousands, by causing indigestion and paralytic intoxication. Camphor, to many hundreds, will sicken, and give headache and cerebral congestion. Have we not passed through a visitation of the cholera? Have we learnt so little, then? Has nature not pointed

out a line of conduct in very many instances? To me, Asiatic cholera affects individuals as musk would: to some the musk is slightly perceptible, to others most disagreeable, to the senses; to some it strikes as a poison, to sicken, to make faint and vomit, and seriously ill;—and all this depending on the peculiarity of the digestive and nervous development. So with cholera; its influence pervades the air. To some individuals the nervous influence is slight, according as the digestive organs and their nervous reaction consent; to others, the premonitory diarrhoea is greater, and, from being neglected or badly treated, the equilibrium of enervation lost, the cholera is declared. Again, the influence meeting the constitution of the nerves of the organs of digestion, assimilation, and secretion, predisposed, the equilibrium is suddenly broken up, and these organs are paralytically stricken, producing the cholera. How escape from it? it is not perceptible like musk or camphor. Trust to your own feelings and good habits of life; and, if you can, change the air if you have money in plenty, but do not change your diet or domestic habits, food or physic, if in good health: take special advice of your medical friend on this head.

I remember the stench of coal gas was apprehended in the close passages in Paris: these places proved the most exempt of cases of cholera; whether from breathing the air saturated with the coal gas, or that the combustion of so many burners clarified and circulated the air attenuating the poison, I know not.

Likewise, it is said the most severe and fatal cases of cholera happened in the night, to those who had supped more or less heartily. The sleep after supper

is apopleetic; apoplexy is paralytic. The same after dinner, too; awaking from which who ever felt warm, and the nerves and the head free? In the night the chill might be as great and greater, as the dew falls, and with it the atmospherical influence; and when asleep, if exposed to cold, being uncovered asleep. Add to this the chill of the indigestion going on, and, if roused to the relief of the bowels, a further exposure to cold takes place, reaction seizes on the nerves, which have been all the time organically deranged, with more or less cerebral congestion. With such a state of the system, under epidemical influence, the cholera might readily develope; and caused by a meal too much, or too inconsistent for the previous state of the secreting organs of the digestive tube, the nerves of which had shewn some slight susceptibility, mistaken as wanting food to satisfy. But after a hearty supper, frequently a greater nocturnal, nervous, connubial excitement is committed, which, too often, is an apopleetic source—and also one of the presumptive causes of cholera in many—as it has been traced; the which in itself is, as love is in any form, a cause of derangement of the digestive organs. It would be better, then, not to sup, or, if the habit is to sup, to sup lightly and early, and to lie quiet.

In fact, to endeavour to explain Asiatic cholera by facts and observations, would be to advance many strange contradictory statements for causes, &c.

The only prophylactic I can advise will be that of keeping the loins and limbs warm, the digestive organs in regular good order, and to insure the secretion and the flow of bile; and particularly to keep in solution

the urea in the action of the kidneys, by sucking frequently, when out especially, a bolus (G), Renagala.

It would be well to note whether, before cholera is developed, there is any morbid derangement of the urinary organs, as has been noted is the case with the bowels; or whether any intermittent action has seized the body,—from Asiatic cholera being fatal in marshy places, or in low, damp, confined places, subject to sudden warm debilitating atmospherical changes, creating poisonous miasma.

Immunity, and reliance on chance of escape, is more to be felt in the change from the actual seat and place of the epidemic cholera, not as running from contagion, but from the air of the place. But however errant or vagabond we may be, remember cholera hides and rides in the atmosphere, and may visit suddenly here, there, and every where; and we could not be surprised that, whilst seemingly flying from it, we meet it on the contrary. It does not bestride the winds, so no weatherecoek guides, no passing stream carries it down: no hill protects—not even the sea. It is God's will; and the only and best advice to offer is, to rest contented where your comforts lie—to retain your habits, fostering the good, rejecting the bad—to enjoin temperance in all things, maintaining always a clean and a warm skin, as likewise the extremities—to make home sweet. Your affairs arranged, to be frugal and wise, living in charity with all—to banish all fear, circulating freely;—to rely upon such as the only specific for cholera, and not to be taking this and that, changing your habits, taking baths, breathing vapours, cold air, &c. :

for cholera we have not always, other complaints we have; so in avoiding the one, avoid both. Let well alone, and each to his cares as he feels best fitting; and should the cholera come, be warm in the cause as a sure recompense, and dread nought.*

* Dr. Stevens, in 1832, imagined to attain a restoration and liquifaction of the blood, saturating the system, by injecting a warm saline aqueous solution through a vein. Drs. Latta, Magendie, Scratchley, and others, followed the practice in Paris unsatisfactorily: success only attends this practice on the slow, steady, and delicate caution in the operation; for, if hurried, or a drop of oil, or particle of grease, or a bubble of air, pass with it into the circulation, death may be instantaneous; unless, as Dr. Amussat and others lately in Paris experimented, by allowing the blood rapidly and freely to flow, by immediate bleeding, to dislodge the extraneous matter from the heart and lungs, &c.

Dr. Marsden, following Dr. Stevens' idea, it seems has had most signal success in his cases at the Free Hospital in 1833. This saline warm injection, composed of oxymuriate of potash, fifteen grains; carbonate of soda, half a drachm; common white salt, three drachms; water, at 100 degrees of heat, forty-eight ounces, forming the solution in a white vessel, or basin,—is introducing a stimulant and universal warmth and fluidity within the system, restoring fluidity to the blood, reviving the circulation, and the reaction to secretions: it is a resuscitating and heroic plan, and one special, as our last hope, to recal life, again and again, in the extreme collapsed stage of cholera,—from the evidence of his experience.

APPENDIX.

As an Appendix to the human treatment against diarrhoea, dysentery, worms, &c., we may add that a similar treatment may be directed towards domestic animals, which are said to have the scour, and die from the same causes as man. The insufflation up the rectum, through an inserted convenient dry tube, by a pair of bellows, a good dose of the antiperistaltic powder, or common starch in powder, mixed with one-fourth of either common chalk or charcoal of wood in powder, after every evacuation; keeping the animal warm by a covering, and in a deep straw litter and warm stable; also to keep them quiet, free from any molestation or annoyance either from the sight of food or drink,—though animals, if adults, when ill, in a state of nature, have the sense not to eat or drink; in domesticity, by being pampered, they might be tempted to do either too soon; hence, if possible, those who have habitually fed them should be cautious; if not, better absent themselves. This treatment adopted would, no doubt, save the lives of many valuable animals,—but it would in the horse rapidly recover him to his work again; and the cavalry service in the field would find its force always more efficiently mounted to

meet the enemy, wherever and in whatever climate a cavalry duty is to be performed. Bovine animals, particularly the calves, might have their flesh kept up, and not fall off so rapidly by the scours; the maintenance of flesh in the latter will be a great consideration in the market, to obtain which, and to prevent scours, calves are allowed to lick lumps of chalk *ad libitum*, which are placed in the bins, if it is not even mixed up with the milk given them as food, to whiten, as is supposed by some, the flesh, but, in fact, to keep up their flesh, preventing the scours from the souring of the milk in digestion, for the flesh when fat whitens from its intermixture with the fat: on the contrary, when the animal is thin, the flesh is redder from the blood containing so much less of fatty assimilated substance in circulation: (in the human species, from the cholera, the flesh becomes a deep congested blood red, and the skin assumes the livid blue or purple colour).

Sheep browsing on aromatic and dry pastures have better flesh, are healthy and well, dropping firm, round, detached, excrementitial matter: if kept grazing on damp, low, and wet shaded grass fields, they become ill, having apparently knotted, running together, excrementitial dropping, when they will require, I believe, to be folded, to keep warm together, and to be fed on dry food. Some people are very particular as to their habitual choice of meat: I have heard it argued and considered by them, that the most wholesome meat is that from the animal which drops habitually firm excrementitial matter, as for instance the sheep, the flesh of which is considered more nourishing, and less liable to disagree with the human

stomach, being short eating ; so we find venison, kid, hares, wild rabbits—and hear of young horses : this consideration carries one to a subject to be treated as diet and regimen, elsewhere, which is in hand for publication. However, so far it gives one an insight to opinions on animals, the health and preservation of which, from diarrhœal disorders, is a consideration, whether they are reared for food, or for luxury and utility.

PRACTICAL CASES, ILLUSTRATIVE OF NOVEL TREATMENT.

CASE I.—Madame Cavet, aged 50, requested my seeing her, 23rd October, 1835. I found her a person of a highly nervoso-sanguineous habit of body, her good constitution quite broken up ;—she stated, having been ill with habitual diarrhœa for upwards of ten years, and was, at times, more or less severely ill ; for the last three years found herself getting worse ; had been attended by all the notability of the faculty in Paris—Italians, Germans, as well as French : hereon she gave the names of Dupuytren, Alibert, Double, Lisfranc, Cruveilhier, Vassal, &c., Berneti, Koreff, &c. : was said to have, at one time this, at another that complaint. Each successive attendant treated her for as many different complaints and affections. Having been a person of a light heart and good fortune, and good lively constitution, she indulged much, and gave herself up to the pleasures of the table and the follies

of the republic and empire, and committed many excesses ; her husband and herself not agreeing well. She soon complained of gastritis, enteritis, metritis, erratic rheumatism, when eventually a fixed chronic sub-inflammatory affection of the mucous membrane of the digestive tube disquieted her, for which she saw Broussais : she ultimately was directed to the sea-side by Lafont, and there rheumatism and derangement of the bowels got worse, from the chills at the sea-side. Her speedy return to Paris was followed by the medicinal baths of Tivoli, to allay the pains of bowels, loins, and limbs ; her sufferings became most serious ; aphthous buccal ulcerations came on, with increase of diarrhoeal action and painful digestion ; the stools became puriform and membranous ; fatal consequences were entertained ;—and here she related having the best advice Paris could produce, both medically and surgically. Thus treated, she underwent various operations of research for inward complaints, and submitted to active and expectant treatment, leeches, blisters, cataplasms, baths, enemas, pills, and mixtures of every variety, and lastly a seton established at the left groin ; and medicinal douches, forced injections up the rectum, and more which, to relate, would astonish belief. To avoid the noise of the streets she was advised to inhabit the quiet of the Champs Elysées, for the benefit of the fresh air, as well as to obtain fresh good milk from the cows, the asses, and the goats, that are kept near, of which she partook plentifully, as advised by Cruveilhier. My introduction to her was accidental : visiting professionally a Portuguese lady who lived in the same house, the floor under her, my attention was directed to the cries of suffering raised by the lady who occupied the

apartment above, who it seems had been disturbing the house all night: the lady I was with sent to know how she was, and stated that her doctor was with her, and would be happy to render her what service he could, if she were willing; her answer was, to accept the kind offer, as her doctor had disappointed her, and she was in great pain. I saw her, and found her a pale thin person, her features bearing the imprint of having long suffered, and her sufferings were now severe from violent spasms, colics, and diarrhœa, which she stated were of full three years' standing, with more or less aggravation and persistency; and repeated, on my subsequent visits on her, the substance of what I have above stated of her case. I was the first Englishman she had spoken to professionally: my speaking perfectly French, and explaining hastily my view and perception of her case, with surprise at the line of treatment, differing totally from what had been done, giving my reasons, and the cause of her sufferings under such diet and such treatment,—whether from the novelty of conversing with a foreigner, or that I had divested her of the fear of an English doctor, by my explaining, to her complete satisfaction, in her own language, my opinion of her case, objecting “in toto” to the treatment she was submitting to, I was requested to renew my visit, after prescribing a treatment, and a diet, &c. I did so, and found adopted and practised all I had advised, which was against great irritability and sensibility of the nervous system, a rheumatical disposition, and an aphthous affection of the whole length of the intestinal mucous membrane, more or less confluent and eruptive, great irritability of the nerves of the skin, and a want of healthy perspiration, &c. &c.

On my introduction, I was warned of her temper : I excused it on the score of her long suffering : she had got tired of all her medical attendance, and I found they had got tired of her exigencies, and ill, impatient temper. It was in the intentional absence of her last medical attendant I was called in, and, whether from the novelty, my attendance began smoothly. As her diarrhoea was of long standing, I enjoined her to patience, and placed her on an antacid and antiperistaltic dietetical treatment, giving her the powder composed of gum tragacanth, gum arabic, and starch, to be repeated, a tea-spoonful three or four times in the twenty-four hours, according to the evacuations ; to take, independently, internally, one drop of Rousseau's tincture of opium (black drop), three or four times a day, just before a meal, as an antispasmodic and tonic to the stomach ; to use externally and abundantly laudanum, even a table-spoonful, to the bowels, when apprehending urgent spasmodic and painful evacuations, keeping the bowels warm with a double band of flannel round them ; to avoid milk, cream, vegetables, acids, wine, stimulant or warmed-up meats, or beef soups, stimulating fluids as coffee, or relaxing fluid, as chocolate, &c. ; to take, in fact, but astringents, emollients, as Carolina rice, boiled wheaten flour, arrow-root, eggs, to suck gum arabic ; her meat to be mutton, her soup mutton broth without vegetables ; salt she would scarcely ever touch ; no syrups or sugar and water to drink, only toast and water, rice or gum, or albuminous water, and these very sparingly ; to have insufflated up the rectum the antiperistaltic powder or the gums, or the injection of the quantity of a wine-glass of a lavement made of starch with

decoction of the poppy heads, or three or four drops of laudanum, or black drop of Rousseau ; to discontinue the copious lavements, the free drinking, though the thirst was always intense. Ice could not be given to her for the tooth-ache it brought on, her teeth being all deprived of the enamel, and her gums in an aphthous and scorbutic state. To discontinue the cataplasms on the bowels, as the linseed poultices, making use of doubles of flannel or carded wool instead ; seldom warm baths ; to discontinue the habitual eating of bread in sop, to have plain water biscuit, "pain de grisini," or sopped captains' biscuits, plain ; keeping the body warm and still, mostly in bed, and to talk little ; to read, or be read to ; and when the stomach was fatigued, flatulent, soddened, and nauseated, to take a drop of æther or salvolatile, in a table-spoonful of the drinks allowed, and to eat of cold plain boiled rice as much as she pleased, and to apply as often as she pleased, and as freely as she pleased, to the pit of the stomach, either sulphuric æther or the salvolatile, covering the application from cold evaporation, adding now and then, as she felt the spasms, some laudanum : this treatment was continued, with some trifling modifications, daily explaining my reasons and the cause of her diarrhœa and her sufferings, the nature of the aphthous eruptions, as I conceived, extending along the bowels, more or less at different parts of the alimentary canal, making her conceive the eruptions being internal instead of being on the external skin,—hence the difficulty, and the time, and patience to obtain a cure. I persisted in my treatment : she was better, and seemed more satisfied with knowing more about her feelings, and how to explain

them, and how to appreciate my explanations; yet she was fatiguing, I was untiring,—giving reasons day by day to satisfy, only till a derangement occurred, caused by some acknowledged imprudence or over-persuasion of the nurse, or her maid, or a friend, to disobey orders, to cheat the doctor, for which she invariably suffered more or less, but taxed me to meet the distress with some novel addition of treatment, such as a grain of the extract of cynoglossum pill, or some distilled laurel water, or the emulsion of bitter almonds, or chalk or magnesia, in infantile doses, yet always remaining to my antiperistaltic and absorbent food, so to wrap up the bile and acrid secretions, to shield the irritated mucous membrane of the intestines against their influence, as if by a varnish, as it were; and the food being, as I explained, to affect internally, not only as a nourishment but as a cataplasm of an emollient and non-fermentitious astringent nature, swallowed to poultice the eruptive bowels, as one would poultice the eruptive skin, and by the repetition to renew the surface, and to improve the secretions and the humours.

During the winter, my treatment, and my explanations, and my tolerance, were all very well; but with the fine spring of the following year my difficulties began, and thickened as the weather became finer: but firm, implacable, and patient, I adhered to my mode of treatment and conception of the case, for good reasons: she was better, had felt so, had said so, and when reminded of the past, with a denial, became outrageous; had changed several nurses, because they would not disobey orders about the attendance and the treatment, but had retained her maid

who would stupidly yield to her caprices, and stealthily give her forbidden things, knowing her reputation as nurse was not at stake. The fair weather brought her visitors, who never found her but in ill humour and in pain: through their injudiciousness, she became, as the fine weather developed, more and more impatient, and acted personally; as at last my appearance in her room was ever and anon greeted by a handful of boiled rice, placed always by her bed-side, within her reach, to partake of when she pleased, of which she was anything but fond. I frequently was covered as if in a hail-storm, by a shower of it thrown at me; it indicated she had suffered, but was better, and the suffering could always be traced to some improper indulgence, tasting a *drop* of old Malaga, a *strawberry*, a *bite* of cake, a biscuit, a *spoonful* of good old wine in a little water, the day before, at dinner: these gifts of kind friends were contrived by the maid, the nurse sometimes, to be offered that they themselves might partake of them: so it was with the presentations of small birds, larks, or fish and fruit. My not allowing the freedom of these things, I got out of favour, and was hinted to retire till a change of attendance, proposed, should be tried; I bowed, and we parted friends. I understood she was to be cured by an experienced old practitioner, the doctor and friend of an intimate and dear friend the fine weather had brought out to see her. Of course my views and treatment were put aside for the most part: things remained so for a fortnight, when suddenly, very early one morning, I was called to *madame*, and found her in high fever, had passed a most excitable and painful night, and had suffered several days greatly from burning heat and derange-

ment of bowels ; she had taken the heroic morphine, to calm, which only irritated and excited : she had sent for her friend in the night. He having seen her three times in the course of the day did not appear, as he was said to be occupied with a patient : my remedy was coffee, in which she delighted, and thought it a great indulgence as an unexpected treat for breakfast, a thing so long disallowed. I explained it as a remedy, which it proved, and she was, after mature examination of the interval past, placed again to the old plate of rice and the original treatment, as when I left off : she progressively got round, and the warm sunny air was allowed to blow on her at her window. Then she would venture out : I objected, she persisted, tottered down stairs, there nearly fainted, and was carried up to her bed, and repented her folly. However, being better with regard to the digestive organs and the digestion, obstinate nervous irritations and here and there erythematous eruptions affected her skin and the mucous membranous openings of her body ; the suffering, great, was comparatively nothing to the aphthous affection of the bowels. In lieu of baths, which I found always relaxed the bowels, and tended to give her cold, however cautiously taken, I prescribed in their stead the insufflation of emollient powders, and now carried the practice more frequently and freely up the bowels, leaving the stomach to do the office of digestion alone. Then sub-acid fruits and vegetables were allowed, as part of change in diet, such as apricots, melons, pears in their due season, asparagus, artichokes, the flowers only of the cauliflower, sparingly and cautiously, with the maintenance of the antacid and antiperistaltic mode of treatment ;

dry friction night and morning, exposure to the sun in the garden, with moderate exercise: she gradually improved, changed her abode, relied on the basis of the treatment, and became at last her own physician, having got well in the course of eighteen months.

After my visit to England I called upon her, and did not know her to be the same person,—she had got so fat, so elastic, so gay, and looked so well: she said she never felt herself better, nor never knew her feelings better, and never required a doctor to relieve her habitual mode of digestive derangements whenever she had exposed herself to indulgences, and had awakened a semblance of her old sufferings, which she never could forget: and I had often said I was glad to have improved myself by having so difficult a patient to advise, and so intricate and complicated a case to treat under all the circumstances attending its very long standing, for the prolixity of which I beg excuse, with the acknowledgment of its being the case which has taught me the rational treatment of chronic digestive disorders of the stomach and bowels, affecting a highly nervous and irritable constitution.*

* I must here remark, that this case, as every case of a French patient, is attended with tiring difficulties, unless the case is a special one, the cure certain and special, of comparatively short duration, as in some operations, some diseases, measles, small-pox, scarlet fever, &c. &c. But in old chronic cases, deranged and worn constitutions, the constant repetition of examinations required, if not requested, of the body and the parts under suffering, or supposed so, the questions to answer, giving satisfactory reasons for the feelings, symptoms, sufferings, and derangements; the giving to satisfaction the result anticipated from the means used, whether internally or externally, medicinal or revulsives; and should the effects not be as anticipated, to give satisfactory

CASE II. —Capt. H., R.N., aged 65.—May 10th, 1836, was taken ill of severe but recent diarrhœa, which most rapidly reduced him, in consequence of the great debility he was found in, from being in a state of convalescence, recovering from an acute and dangerous illness—pleurisy on the right side, complicated with a chronic affection of the liver, which latter had, with the fatigue of active service, reduced his once good robust constitution. He took internally only the antiperistaltic powder (C), the one or other of the drinks (A), as the food (B), and in the course of the four-and-twenty hours was free from action of the bowels, and well.

reasons for the contradiction: this why-and-because practice is followed up in most trifling things, yet all-important to the patient and the patient's friends and relatives; likewise the visits are required to be early, even before the breakfast, to know what to take, whether a stimulant, an emollient, a refrigerant, or to use an enema, a bath, a foot-bath, or leeching, &c., so as not to interfere with the digestion of the breakfast, and the visits must be repeated in the course of the day, and at nightfall: the fees given are in general the most trifling and moderate,—in fact, to practise amongst them to give satisfaction, you must have studied, and be the philosopher, the physician, the doctor, the surgeon, the friend, and act with certainty and promptitude; knowing, too, not only the art of pharmacy, but that culinary, as appropriate diet with them is more appreciated than drugs in treating diseases; diet drinks than draughts; herbal infusions, "tisans," ptisans, than mixtures; cataplasms, enemas, baths, than pills and ointments: you must explain the reason for air, exercise, and weather: and if unwilling to enter into this why and because, even to the nurse or the maid, objections are found to you, and your worth is not that amounting to the moderate fee they will afford to offer you, unless you are so known in practice, and have become callous and hardened from long services, and the many ungrateful returns for attendance.

CASE III.—Mr. H., aged about 25, now surgeon, of rising eminence, at one of the metropolitan hospitals, on July 28th, 1839, was taken with severe exhausting spasmodic diarrhoea, of some days' standing, caused by change of diet, fatigue, exposure to chills and wet; of a nervous and seemingly delicate spare constitution. Under his own prescriptions he got worse and worse, when, by his mother's wish, I was called up in the night to him. I found him faint from excessive pain and exhaustion, from the repeated action of the bowels; he had cold perspirations and excessive thirst. I gave him the simple antiperistaltic powder, with cold water, which he sipped only to moisten the mouth and throat, abstaining from all other liquids. Hot brandy, with an ample quantity of laudanum—about a table-spoonful—was applied on to the skin of the abdomen, at the seat of pain of the bowels, over which a double band of flannel was wound round his loins, and covered up warm with blankets to perspire; and to retain the impression, to the utmost, of the sense of the call to evacuate by the bowels, till the kidneys acted. After the second tea-spoonful dose of the powder he was found to fall asleep, and being well covered up, he perspired freely. By the next morning he had taken a third dose of the powder. On my visit I found him dressed, lying on the bed. He said he felt he should do now; the pain and evacuations had ceased; was not so weak as he expected to have found himself; the thirst was nothing; did not feel the least hungry, nor any sinking at stomach, nor vacuity of the bowels. The kidneys had acted, but the bowels not for some time, and then nothing scarcely; and was inquisitive to know what I had given

him—it was not bad to take. I told him. His expression was, “Oh! indeed!”

CASE IV.—Lady C., of Dublin. Recommended by Lady A., in Paris. Lady C. sent for me 28th October, 1839. For a length of time her ladyship had had habitual distressing derangements of the digestive organs; not so much from the stomach as from great weakness, from great and repeated relaxation and qualms in the bowels. She was so uncomfortable and so nervous about it, that she feared to eat or drink, though she felt in good appetite, and enjoyed what she ate, but was certain soon after to feel the qualms of derangement in the bowels, without pain or much suffering, but impatient intolerance of the impression of the digesting food; and was obliged immediately to retire, and that repeatedly at short intervals, until all her food had passed.

Thus she was miserable, and could not receive her friends to dinner, nor accept invitations out, nor dine from home any where—in fact, she feared to eat or drink, and knew not what to take. She had had advice from all the leading men—the summities of Dublin, Bath, Cheltenham, and London; was ordered finally by the latter to quit this climate and go to Italy, for warmth and change of climate, to revel and be a child of the sun. I was shewn a large packet of prescriptions that had been carefully preserved; they were precious repetitions of useless drugs *in her case*. She could not say which did her any permanent good. I told her the recital of her own case; her looks, her tongue, voice, and pulse, convinced me that perhaps her ladyship would find in her house a remedy, without

going further. She was eurious to know what it was. She allowed me to ring her maid's bell. I wrote a prescription, as a matter of eourse ; and, on offering it to her ladyship, stated, that whilst travelling she need not be under any apprehension, as it might be made up at either the first apothecary's or groeer's she might pass in town or village. Her maid entering, said riece and starch were in the house. A good tea-spoonful of the starch was given to her ladyship in a wine-glass of eold water, which was to be continued in an hour or two, according as she felt her usual digestive qualms ; to eat of the eold boiled rice, and to have riece soup ; eoffee, with an egg stirred in it in lieu of ecream ; or to take, for the next dose, a tea-spoonful of the anti-peristaltie powder (C) of the prescription, in lieu of the starch, in a wine-glass of diluted cinnamon water, an hour or less before each meal in the day. I saw her ladyship three times, after which I heard of her dining out, receeiving company, going to balls, to the opera ; enjoying Paris, its environs ; eeasing to be nervous about herself, or how on earth she could travel comfortably. In fine, she went no further than Paris, but returned home well, and knew herself and her resources better, how to allay and to control the flatulent nervous peristaltie action of the bowels, induuced formerly on the echange of weather to eold and wet, or on exposure to chills, nervous flurries and exeitements, or on partaking of flatulent and fermenting food or drinks, which in either ease brought on invariably the obstinate teasing diarrhoea, from the nervous irritability of the bowels and great muco-membranous suseeptibility, even to the digestive impression of the most ordinary

and cautious adherence to the then prescribed diet and habit of living, &c. &c.

CASE V.—Lady N— was induced to tolerate my being called in, to advise in the case of her grandchild, the infant daughter of Mrs. S—, two months old, May the 6th, 1840, by the good counsels of an influential lady, and good friend, the Hon. Mrs. B—, who placed responsibility and the odium of obstinacy in such a light, that her ladyship's consent was only given up with the idea of having transferred and sacrificed, fatally, her better judgment, dominion, and authority. Her son-in-law, Mr. S—, was tacitly against her. The reason for not admitting further advice was, that the family adhered to homœopathy, and were attended by an homœopath. The infant was born in good health and disposition, it seems, and was nursed by a hired French wet nurse, a peasant girl from the provinces, who, for the hire in this position, agreed and allowed herself to be placed under the homœopathic treatment and mode of dieting; and, of course, she changed completely her habit and being. In a short time the infant was taken ill of diarrhœa. The poor nurse was more rigidly and homœopathically dieted; herself suffering at last from this, would no longer submit to it; she therefore was changed. The same bargain, the same provision, the same homœopathic plan, was resorted to with her successor; but this wet nurse felt unequal to the tolerance of the insipieney; her milk fell off, and she left. A third was hired, a fourth, a fifth; and a sixth was selected more carefully, out of the "bureau," or house of call for wet

nurses, as the most eligible. She was young, a “*primipari*,” just confined of her first child; very strong, healthy, of good milk, and plenty of it; and was a country girl, unmarried, as the others were. Being of a kind and lively disposition, she was willing to submit to the homœopathic restrictions, to recover the poor dear infant, who was dying from want of the breast, and of diarrhœa. The mother, too, was lying ill in bed, from great debility and despondency, never having been allowed to gather strength, through her gestation, to have milk to nurse her infant with, by her homœopathic doctor. Her fears concentrated on her child, she was pleased with the appearance and willingness of the nurse. The infant took the breast well—was seemingly calm; but the following day—there was no accounting for it—it grew worse, and the effort, on its crying from the colics, caused repeated evacuations; they were green, slimy, excoriating, but not so offensive. It now seemed to suffer more, and with an inability to suck. This infantile suffering affected very much the poor nurse, herself a young mother, and perhaps never having seen an infant so ill; and certainly never having witnessed so much fuss, costly attention, and anxious cares depicted among so many ladies. She was willing to do any thing—take any thing; her suffering, too, became real, for her breasts became painfully distended, the infant refusing to suck. The distress was general; dismay possessed the family; friends interfered; the homœopathic doctor could not advise nor suggest any means of improvement; the book of *homœopathic specifics* and *certain remedies* had been thumbed and thumbed over and over by him by this, to no purpose; homœopathic consultations

were had, the wisdom of which was to resolve that the nurse was to be discharged, and that the infant should be brought up by hand. Nature and good sense cried shame ; and, to save character for humanity and common sense, the father and the friends advised some rational practice, and more natural and proper treatment,—on which I was sent for.

I saw the infant in the monthly nurse's arms. I was pleased to see her there, as being a good nurse. B—— in a few words gave the history and the mystery of the case, and one that I knew from her I could rely on ; and she was delighted to disentangle herself from the humbug of their homœopathy. I examined the child ; tested its evacuations ; found them watery, green, acid, excoriating ; the urine very pungent and acid ; the bowels flatulently distended, and very sensible to the slightest pressure. The evacuations were ejected with violence and pain, as if spit out of the rectum with a volume of wind. The fever was slight, and, though the thirst was great, the infant was too weak and pained in the bowels to suck. The wet-nurse examined : I found her milk good by the tests, abundant, creamy ; the breasts painfully distended, and she was mentally and bodily distressed. I encouraged her, by telling her her milk was too generous and too good ; not the least acidulated ; quieted her mind ; persuaded her to remain in her place, and advised her being kept ; to have her milk drawn now and then, to ease the breasts ; to live as she habitually and rationally had done, taking her wine and soups, &c., and to take exercise in or out of the house.

The infant was put under treatment of the anti-peristaltic powder (C), a tea-spoonful of it suspended in

four ounces of water; to give of this mixture a tea-spoonful every half hour; likewise to have the same proportion of the antiperistaltic powder dissolved in six ounces of warm rice water, a table-spoonful of which to be given, just warm, as an enema, after every evacuation from the bowels; to have the bowels moistened, not rubbed, with warm brandy, and to be immediately covered with a double band of flannel from the hips to the arm-pits,—the limbs to be entirely, in long fleecy hosiery stockings; the infant, even if it cries, not to shake or rock it; to keep it well wrapped up, warm and quiet, in the lap; and if it cries, to turn it on its bowels to lie there a time. To powder well the rectum and the vulva, and where excoriated, with a thick layer of common prepared chalk in powder; and, as the stools were scanty, only to change the infant every hour or more, to expose it to chill as little as possible, as well as to make it cry as little as possible. To moisten the mouth with a tea-spoonful, at an hour's interval, of a mixture composed of four grains of bicarbonate of soda and weak gum water cold,—about a tea-cupful. To avoid giving the breast till the bowels ceased their violent action, and then not to allow the infant to suck much, and that not till it had taken its tea-spoonful of the antiperistaltic mixture, to check the rapid descent, and relaxing effect of the warm milk, with the effort of sucking. To keep in the same room, and have it warm, to encourage its perspiration, but not on any account to disturb the flannel band, nor change it, for a day or so.

The parents in this momentous investigation did not choose to be present: yet it was a judgment to be given, and acted upon, and executed, on the life or the death of a suffering dear infant. It would seem that

homœopathy had hardened the feeling and wish to listen to any thing rational. The mystery—the miracle—the magic spell of homœopathy had bound nature to be unnatural: no hope nor result but from it—no hope nor result could come of any thing not like to it. The case was wrenched from their hands, not reasoned from it; the infant was given up, sacrificed, to one of the old school—a member of a class of murderers!—when the child might homœopathically have lingered and died a natural death:—yes, tortured by its sufferings, whilst the “do nothing” new lights, with the exquisite humbug homœopathy and its payers, and *self-elected* professors and practitioners, would have allowed nature to slip through the fingers, and the detection of ignorant practice impossible. I saw nothing of them. It was agreed that the wet nurse should live well; and I knew that nurse B——, who wisely herself resisted the conversion to homœopathy, would do her practical duty, and second my views.

The next morning, I found the first dose of the mixture the infant vomited; the second, and other doses, it retained; that its colics were less, as the action of the bowels, and the last evacuations of better consistence and colour. To continue the same antiperistaltic remedies, according to the evacuations, with quiet; and, as it would not take the breast, to continue the treatment of the wet nurse, who felt and expressed herself more happy. In the evening, the infant, I found, passed the day quiet, and the evacuations less frequent, and were better. The next morning the report was—the night had been passed well; good and quiet sleep, and but few stools, of a better nature, being at the same time offensive from bilious digestion;

the heat and irritation had subsided, as the excoriations. In the course of the forenoon the infant took the breast, and would, if allowed, have emptied them heartily. In anticipation of the infant's return to the breast, the wet nurse took repeatedly, in some drink or other, in the course of the day, five grains of bicarbonate of soda; she had rice soup, coffee, tonic meat diet, wine and water, brandy and water:—such means, to give good quality to the milk, for the benefit of the homœopathic infant. The next day, the third of my visit, the child was well, and had continued to take the breast night and day; but had only been allowed a small quantity at a time, not to distend too much its little stomach.

Thus ended the cure, during which I saw no parent—neither mother nor father. Such is the effect—the poison—of the spell of homœopathy on weak minds. We met to see each other, naturally enough, in the walks of life afterwards, and felt perhaps to dislike it.

CASE VI.—Miss Anna C r, aged five years, of a delicate nervous constitution and susceptible bowels, had a curious and precarious appetite; intolerant digestion of some kinds of fruits and vegetables; very subject to looseness of bowels and fall of the rectum; very susceptible to cold, and in the winter is troubled with chilblains: in fact, the greatest caution is required to keep her warm, and her bowels in a comfortable state. After having been more or less indisposed during the winter, the uncertainty of the spring weather, and some inattention unobserved in diet, a disordered state of the bowels was brought on. The diarrhœa was attended to domestically, as a matter of

habit, by her mother. The derangement continued more than a week, all the usual remedies and means failing; the child became worse, with fever, attended with extensive protrusion of the fundament; painful and frequent slimy, seanty, and bloody evacuations; constant desire to evacuate, with distressing straining. I saw her on April 2d, 1840, and investigated and found as above stated. On examination, the child was with fever; hard and hot skin; great weakness; great flatulency and distension of bowels, yet but little pain on pressure. The child being up and dressed, I advised to go to bed, to be kept there; ordered brandy, and flannel band to its bowels, and a soft boiled linseed meal cataplasm to the chest and pit of stomach, to excite relaxation on the skin by perspiration; the protruded bowel to be thickly powdered with starch in powder, and to be pushed up in its place; and to take the antiperistaltic powder (C), a tea-spoonful suspended in a tea-cup of cold rice water. As the stomach rejected, to give only a couple of tea-spoonfuls of this at a time every hour; to sip in the meanwhile, to cool the mouth and throat, cold gum water, or the albuminous water—the white of an egg suspended in a tea-cup of cold water; and, if possible, to give as an enema two table-spoonfuls of the antiperistaltic mixture just warm; to be covered to perspire, and not to be spoken to by her sisters, or any of her little friends. The following day very little amendment; the enema or injection was attended with some dread, and at first with difficulty, and were not urged to be retained; they were to be repeated, with decoction of two poppy heads in a tumbler of water, reduced one half and strained, mixing two large tea-spoonfuls of the powder;

to give a table-spoonful as an injection after each evacuation, to be repeated if not retained. To relieve the painful bloody flux, as the colics so much complained of, sulphuric æther was added to the brandy, to be applied to the skin, and covered immediately with the flannel binder. The stomach was quieter; but as the heat of skin was harsh and dry, the cataplasm was renewed, and, to allay intense thirst, small bits of ice were allowed to melt in the mouth repeatedly; and to continue the antiperistaltic, tea-spoonful doses only, as the bowels seemed to be better. The following night she passed better; some food then was given, as a drink, the digestion of which excited the return of colics, and more frequent painful stools. Strict diet was ordered to be observed, as what was given was given as medicine and as food; and the same things and treatment were enjoined to be followed up. A fear was entertained that, having been ill so long before I was called in, she might sink from weakness; medicines, as astringents, tonics, opiates, &c. &c. were requested to be given to her: these I objected to, and gave my reasons convincingly. In lieu of them she had, as a choice, alternately, albuminous water with gum arabic, boiled wheaten flour and water as gruel, with the yolk of an egg in it, a trifle of salt, or sugar candy; to eat a yolk of egg hard boiled, plain boiled rice, or the plain captain's biseuit,—one or other successively, and in very small quantities at a time. Progressively evident amendment came on, when beef-tea, with gum arabic, or starch, or isinglass, was dissolved in it, as rice, to support, comfort, and be retained by the bowels; to give, to awaken, activity to the nervous action of the stomach, and to take off

the qualms, cinnamon water, diluted with the gum water, with four to six drops of sal volatile, to be taken repeatedly in the course of the day, particularly after eating any of the insipid astringents. Externally the application of æther and brandy to the bowels was continued, and enjoined only to be applied in the mornings, because the nervous system was excited by the noise and movement of the house, and because its effects could be seized on, to recover from its intoxicating action by the use of the sal volatile. In the course of ten days she perfectly recovered, and was not so emaciated by her illness.

I afterwards learnt that the greatest anxiety was entertained for her well doing, in consequence of the loss of a brother, affected just similarly, in London, being of the same age, five years old, to whom every attention and remedies were ineffectually employed; and the recovery from this diarrhoeal and dysenterical affection was unexpected by all.

CASE VII.—Mrs. L———e, the lady of an eminent city lawyer, mother of several children, extremely young and delicate herself, of a very nervous constitution, subject to habitual diarrhoea, had been under treatment three weeks in London for an attack; on her convalescence from which, was recommended change of air, when she visited France and Paris with her husband in vacation. Her transit from the coast to Paris was with the feeling of improvement; but from the fatigue of sight-seeing and partaking of unaccustomed food, she became ill. Just three days previous to the period determined on for their return to England—the plaees were taken in the diligence

for London—a legal ease of great importance called her husband to his office. What was to done? she must be left. The usual distressing symptoms were returning with rapid development; she took what medicines she had brought with her in case of diarrhœa. It was thought advisable to have reprepared the prescriptions brought with her for that purpose, when her husband, an old friend known to me many years, all at once imagined I might be still in Paris: he sought and obtained my address, and called the 25th of August, 1840, and requested my attendance in the Place Vendôme, where I found his lady suffering from painful diarrhœa, great bearing down, pressure, and colics of the bladder and uterus—as she described; the fever was trifling; the spirits good. She was immediately placed on the emollient antiperistaltic plan:—Gum-arabic dissolved in strong rice-water, cold, having starch suspended in it,—to stir it, and to sip it every half an hour, and to eat plain boiled rice—a spoonful or so every half hour or more. Apply warm brandy, and to add æther to the bowels, to take off the chills felt there, covering the chest well, and binding the loins tight with flannel; to keep perfectly quiet in the horizontal position, encouraging perspiration, to sleep, or to read, but to abstain from talking; to heed as little as possible the call of action of the bowels—the body being well wrapped up, particularly the loins and limbs, with bottles of hot water to the feet. The warmth and perspiration will take off the concentration of the fluids to the bowels,—dissipating the feeling of wanting to act, which is but spasmodic and peristaltic. The day and night passed off with diminution of pain and action of the bowels. The following morning to eat

the rice, and to drink the same anti-peristaltic compositions, and, if hungry, to eat a hard-boiled yolk of egg, some plain captains' biscuit—the more the better, to sip albuminous water cold, viz. the white of an egg stirred in a tumbler of cold water, rice-water, or gum-arabic water; to suck gum-arabic in any quantity, the applications to the bowels the same, and if the bowels are moved less, and she feels really hungry, to eat the lean of a mutton-chop; the drinks to be the same. Her nervous fears were calmed. I promised she should be well to travel, if she truly followed my injunctions and perscriptions. Preparations were continued by packing up to be off, though her husband, from the nature of her previous illness, feared a disappointment, and being obliged to return home alone.

The following morning I found the night had been good,—no pain, no evacuation, perspiration general. She was up on the sofa, dressed as if in winter, feeling happy, with a gay expression; felt her appetite returning; was induced to eat biscuit and rice during the night; to continue more or less the same as yesterday. To prepare the bowels now for meat, by eating a first or morning meal of rice, because astringent, absorbent of the gastric juice and the bile; it is emollient and retentive in the stomach at digestion; to continue the drinks, and, if no evacuation, to eat some chicken or the lean of mutton for dinner, and rice soup. The following morning I found all right; the night had been well passed; had one good action of bowels; she felt well. In the midst of preparations for the journey in the evening, I enjoined to have and take with her a supply of prepared rice, her drinks, captains' biscuits, hard boiled eggs, and the anti-peristaltic powder: all

was done. I called at the hotel the next morning: they were off. I saw Mrs. L. a month after this in London. She stated, having travelled very comfortably with no fatigue, she had had one slight return of her diarrhœa, which she immediately checked by the use of the carbonated anti-peristaltic powder, the prescription of which I had given her, and she only complained of her usual palpitations of the heart, which she wished, too, were as effectually under her control as were the diarrhœal affections, the cause of which my time did not then allow me to inquire into, to advise, and prescribe for properly.

CASE VIII.—Doctor E——, a physician of long standing, of a robust, muscular frame, enjoying excellent health, but of a nervous and highly bilious temperament, always subject to sudden and frequent diarrhœal derangements, and formerly hæmorrhoidal tumours, or rather partial, I should conceive, from the diarrhœal cause, protrusion and descent of the mucous membrane of the rectum, the vessels of which distending, formed transient hæmorrhoidal tumours; the diarrhœal derangements came on especially when feeling under any nervous excitement, hurry, or occupation of sedentary pursuit, exposing the body to chills, especially in the spring and the autumn, on taking acid fruits or fermentescent and saccharine green vegetables; also when travelling any distance, so much so as to take half the pleasures of the journeys from him. The explanation is, from the activity given to the digestion and the flow of bile, to descend into the lower bowels, before prepared to be carried down so far, the bowels unprepared to receive the fluid, and fermentescent, undi-

gested, and elaborated food, where it distends, inflates, and irritates the muscular fibres, causing impatient intolerance, and the desire for its expulsion, and this because of the exercise and movement of the body ; the peristaltic action of the bowels is quickened, and the food descends too rapidly, stimulating, by its fermentation, such portions of the tube, where the habit is the feeling of tardy movement, and the reception of the chyme of well-digested and non-effervescent or distending matter ; on the contrary, the matter being hurried down by the undulating movement and oscillations, peristaltic action causes the undigested, effervescent, and distending fluid matter to descend, which, irritating, disturbs the quiescent state of the large bowels, to contract, heat, and irritate : hence the expulsion of the uncongenial mass from the tissues, whence a derangement—from the irritation of successive similar impressions—causing diarrhoea, dysentery, sporadic cholera, and particularly this will be the case under such a state of nervous and bilious habit of body. In instances of change of food—as exposure to chills, and the fatigue and heat of bowels in travelling—the Doctor could not enjoy the usual food whilst travelling ; to smoke then a cigar would be to relax immediately the bowels by its sedative and relaxing medicinal action on the gastric intestinal nerves ; the cigar, even with the quiet of home, was not always tolerated by the nervous sensibility. He had resorted to the various means which the pharmacopœia, and his private combinations, suggested, but were of no avail whilst travelling. I hinted and explained to him the one offered in this sketch : he found it simple, convenient, tried it, and proclaimed it efficient, and

heroical as a specific. The satisfaction on himself was such, that the means have been adopted by him in his practice, and he has told me that he invariably states from whom adopted, when he prescribes the plan which he finds happy in its effects under all circumstances; and he also insures himself against any anticipated attack of the bowels from exposure to air and fatigue, in his practice, or any derangement anticipated on dining from home,—by eating rice, gum-arabic, captains' biscuit, or swallowing, just before the dinner, a tea-spoonful of starch suspended in water; the reverse of those who are obliged to swallow a rhubarb or an aloetic pill before dinner, as a promoter solicitous to digestion, and descent of food; and he has been often obliged to take such quantities of the antiperistaltic till feeling the stomach most amply distended and satiated, as if a full meal had been taken, before he could feel satisfied of having received sufficient to absorb the bile, the secretions—giving a tone and feeling of support to the stomach and bowels—checking the peristaltic action of the digestive tube. Under which method he continued his vocations, enjoying the best of health.

CASE IX.—The infant boy, aged one month, of Mrs. B—e, Chaussez d'Antin, had had two nurses changed, and was on the point of having the third, in consequence of a diarrhoeal derangement, the which commenced shortly after his birth: he had suffered more or less, had had a variety of things given him to check the affection, which at last assumed an alarming feature. The family apprehended danger from the number of stools, the bad and green appearance of

them. I was called in on the 11th March, 1841, and saw the state of the evacuations, from the cloths; the examination of the infant detected no fever, nor did it evince pain on pressure of the bowels, though there was great flatulency and heat, and excoriations at the rectum; the urine was scanty and high-coloured. It sucked and drank with avidity, and the digestions followed soon after taking the breast, or the drinks given; otherwise the infant looked well, though much fallen in flesh. The wet nurse was young, very healthy, looking well developed, with an abundant and full breast of milk, the nipples well developed, and her first breast of milk, the which, tested, gave strong evidence of acidity: she therefore was placed on good diet,—rice soups, roast meats, generous wine, brandy and water, coffee for breakfast, and allowed to go out to take the air: she was to take, six times in the twenty-four hours, six grains of the bicarbonate of soda, in a little fluid, on an empty stomach: her mind was quieted with the assurance of the efficacy and goodness of her milk. The infant took the antiperistaltic powder, with a small addition of the bicarbonate of soda, in some rice or gum water, a tea-spoonful of the powder, four grains of the soda to a wine-glassful of the fluid, a tea-spoonful of which was to be taken every half hour; to abstain from the sucking, and the breasts of the nurse to be drawn of the milk, to relieve them. To the bowels of the infant warm brandy was applied on flannel, and the flannel bound round the body, from the hips to the arm-pits; it had given small enemas, to be retained after every evacuation by the bowels, composed of starch, a tea-spoonful suspended in a tea-cup of warm water, a table-spoonful

to be injected at a time, powdering well the fundament afterwards with starch, in powder: the infant to be wrapped up in flannel, kept quiet and warm in the lap. This treatment, in the course of the four-and-twenty hours, checked the diarrhœa of the infant; at the same time the milk of the nurse, by the test, proved alkaline. On the following day the infant was entirely recovered, the nurse continued less frequently the soda, but maintained the diet and exercise, and the infant rapidly improved on the milk of the nurse.

CASE X.—Miss B., sister to Lady C. and Lady E., and aunt to Lord W., about 50, has always been and still is very active in disposition, mind, and body—states to have enjoyed a good constitution, of a sanguineous and nervous temperament; though with all this good habit of body, she has constantly complained of an irregular action of the digestive organs, with too great freedom of bowels, pains in the loins and kidneys, and consequent debility attending. The looseness of the bowels would come on most suddenly, to surprise her and deprive her often in fulfilling her social engagements: in progress of time, this state of the digestive organs increased in severity of action, depending now not only on indigestion and fermentation of the bowels, but on the influence of cold and damp, as also on sudden fright, or fatigue, or nervous worry, as likewise from the moral nervous influence, whether from the excitement of joy, grief, or fear; whence her existence became now to her a constant source of anxiety and uncertainty, producing that moral depression and physical debility which is the constant attendant on indigestions, and chronic di-

arrhœal or dysenterical derangements, the habit to which she had become a prey. She had endeavoured to obtain relief every where, and for years, but fruitlessly, for no plan of permanent relief was adopted, and hence no consistent check could be given to the debilitating derangement; and this after consulting various physicians in London, Dublin, and the fashionable watering-places, and latterly in Paris. April the 12th, 1841, Miss B. happened to dine at a friend and patient's of mine, and not feeling that certainty of herself, she expressed her fears that having indulged in a good dinner, she apprehended, with the chill of the night, it would disagree with and make her ill. Why, then, send for Skiers. Oh! I am tired of doctors, they are all the same, have taken my fee and done me no earthly good. Try him, you will find him differ from the many; he is very patient, and will do you good if any good is to be done. This was related to me: and certainly, the good things Miss B. had taken at St. Germain, what with the journey home, did derange her. I saw her the following day, and agreeably surprised her by placing her on a different plan to that which she had hitherto been under: it was the antiperistaltic powder administered in every form: an appropriate dress of flannel, and an absorbent generous diet, was prescribed, under which she immediately improved; and from the familiarity and frankness of the consultations, she felt she possessed an insight and thorough knowledge of her own constitutional susceptibility, and the nature and causes of her disorder; feeling now to have in her ready command the efficient means to check the complaint at its very development, —anticipating it, as it were.

The error of the previous treatment, if I may be allowed so to express myself, was taking nervous sympathetic effects for causes. The diarrhoeal and dysenterical affection excited other organs to distressing sympathies, with symptoms more tangent and so severe as to occupy most the feelings: she suffered, too, under a constitutional and hereditary disposition; the colic pains of the kidneys felt were synchronous with the colic of the bowels; the weight, congestion, and fulness of the sphincter, or the neck of the bladder, naturally was attendant on that of the sphincter of the rectum; the tenesmus felt by the one was reflected naturally by a nervous consent to the other; the relaxation of one, from a common sense of debility, was the cause of relaxation in the other; hence the impatience of retention of the matter of the bowels, as that of the fluid of the bladder. The distress felt, and bitterly complained of, was multiform, but the real disease was uniform: and the treatment should have resolved itself to a unit, and that unit viscerai and pelvic irritation; not inflammation, for it is said that “when a muscular tube is under inflammation, there is cessation of contraction;” but under irritation, which is another thing, the action and contraction might be great: with these views, the means employed were those already detailed—antiperistaltic, emollient, antacid, antifatulent, and food highly digestive and antiphlogistic, with local warmth. Miss B. kept happy and well for twelve months: as “habit is second nature” the old attacks threatened again, from neglect of the precepts, exposure to chills, the allurements of the table, indulgences from the pressing invitations of friends, the impossibility to remain from the delights

of society, &c. Having lost the prescriptions, the usual means were resumed, and from the early attention, the recovery was prompt; and upon the whole, the regularity and stability of the digestive organs, the system, the habit and appearance of health of body, was improved, to the surprise and remark of every one who had known, years ago, Miss B., whose good nature and spirits never failed.

CASE XI.—Mrs. O—'s lady's maid, February 14th, 1847, was taken with severe diarrhœa; it had lasted two days before she was obliged to divulge the cause of her altered and debilitated appearance. The antiperistaltic powder, and warmth of bed, checked the complaint in four-and-twenty hours: the family from Madras; the master, an old member of council, observed it would be excellent against cholera.

CASE XII.—Mrs. T—n, after a confinement, under the impression of fatality, (her last child, a boy ten years old, at Harrow school), from early imprudent exposure to cold, and partaking too freely of bottled porter as a means of gaining strength, brought on severe diarrhœa, which the major, her husband, stated was habitual to her in India,—in fact, amounting to Indian cholera. The major, a most intelligent cavalry officer, said he knew how to treat her—congee water, with buccu, "*diosma erinata*," rice, opium, chalk mixture, with aromatic confection; he had cured many, but the poor native troopers would be seized at night and be dead next day, by scores. But we found Mrs. T. could not bear rice, could not support laudanum, opium, and habitually she never

drank much ; indeed she was of a very delicate complexion, and spare habit of body ; the thirst, however, was great, yet the stomach rejected. The pain from the colics, and the bearing-down reaction on the uterus, with the repeated action of the bowels, brought on fever, hysterical attacks, and splitting head-aches, both of which she had been subject to, and could never bear the heat ; in fact, we were in November, and no fire could she bear in her bed-room, the child being carried and dressed near that of the next room. Great was the alarm, from her great state of weakness. I saw no immediate alarm, communicated freely with the major, over-ruled the routine Indian mode of treatment he seemed too familiar with, gave answers to his questions, explained causes and effects, symptoms and complications : as the milk now dried up, and the lochia was abundantly returned, I was allowed to know best, and to put into active practice my principles and plan of treatment : she had, most freely, æther, and brandy, and laudanum to the bowels, over which, as tight as possible, a flannel binder round the hips and loins : her limbs being always, as her feet, cold, were warmed by hot water bottles applied to them, and covered over with flannel separately, not to impede the nervous, restless fidget of the limbs, she was subject to at all times. She took internally my antiperistaltic powder ; the ingredients, in part, were found in the major's ample and well furnished medicine chest ; that wanting was sent for ; he mixed them, a tea-spoonful of which was given every half an hour, in the congee and buchu water, and lastly in weak cinnamon water, adding, at times, four to six drops of sal volatile. Ice she was fond of, and had

repeatedly pieces to suck, to allay the heat and thirst, and the clammy state of the mouth and throat; her temples were bound by a tape, to suppress the pulsations of the temporal arteries, which fatigued her; and to the forehead a cold evaporating lotion of eau de Cologne, vinegar, and water combined, was constantly applied. Having the habit of keeping the arms constantly out of bed, they were thrust into the major's fleecy hosiery stockings,* and a soft ample old Indian

* Practitioners abroad, and even at home too, amongst the poor specially, are obliged to be ready-witted, to supply preservative efficient means to suit the end intended and wished: thus I have been called to confine a person who had arrived, post haste, before her luggage; the infant in the night had only a torn-up shift to be swathed in from the cold; it, however, lay contented, well, and happy, by the warmth of its mother,—sucking its thumb.

In Switzerland, at Lucerne, a grand fête was given by the landamann, Mr. Ruttimann. The peasant servant, a handsome, vapoury, would-be fine person, dressed in her showy best, took it in her head to alarm the company, in the midst of the enjoyment of tea and cake: being the only doctor present, I was hurried with the crowd of ladies and gentlemen to see, in the next room, what was the matter with La Madeleine; there was she kicking, writhing, and sobbing, perhaps for some kirschenschwasser, or a good glass of wine, which, perhaps, she had had before given in these attacks, as it was considered from the fatigues in the preparation of the fête: they began unlacing: I supposed she never allowed that to go further than to see the fine things she had on. I called for sal volatile,—not known, as no squeamish ladies were here; for hartshorn, I made some: having two fine glossy black tresses of hair hanging down her back, I took one, and with the candle singed it well under her nose; the light, the glare, and noise of hissing, the fumes and the stench under her nostrils, made her open her eyes; in a trice she was wide awake, seeing it was her own beautiful hair that was sacrificed for her recovery. In a moment I was hugged, and almost had my arms

shawl covered the shoulders : the major, a most excellent nurse, from this observed, “ we shall do now, I think.” I further enjoined the removal of the infant from the room, to be out of hearing, as Mrs. T—n lost her milk for the time ; the room to be kept quiet, and no talking with the patient, and the nurse to manage that Mrs. T—n does not quit the warmth of her bed, and no admittance of friends to see or peep in upon her : this last injunction was requested to be written and posted up at the door, as closed upon every body, the inlet being round about through the major’s slip of dressing-room. Thus matters stood progressively ; there was quiet and calm repression of all the disturbances : every symptom abated : was a bad sleeper from being nervous ; was hysterical about the child, who, a stout boy, took his food well, but a promise was made to return him to his mother, whose breasts were kept warm by a quantity of carded or wadding cotton ; and as, shortly, they were going to India to join, a French nurse would be a bore, &c. The night passed off better than expected, the pains less, and the bowels much quieter : to continue the same : saw her at night, still better ; had slept very triflingly, but was in constant good moisture ; less discharges of the

shook off, by the thankful greetings of the young men of the house, for having invented such a capital remedy for her habitual and untimely fainting fits, which spoilt all the fêtes she did not like ; and nothing could have been better hit on, to recal her to her senses, than her hair, an ornament she took most pride in. I pointed to some feathers, which would have done as well.—“ Yes ! but her hair is more vital to her ; she will remember this, and we shall never have her fainting again, whilst any of us are present, thanks to you.” I was sorry for poor Madeleine after this.

lochia, and action of bowels less ; the kidneys had kept up their action ; thirst less. The following morning, the night had been passed well—better in every respect ; had the binder tightened, and the ether, brandy, and laudanum reapplied ; requested her arms to be at liberty, finding the heat too much—in fact, the nurse found the arms always at liberty, and carried, as usual, to rest on the pillow, or over her head*, though her head was better, and had no hysterical attacks ; did not like her draught, as being eloying ; no appetite ; no sickness ; took more freely the sal volatile ; had arrow-root, a boiled egg, captains' biscuits. In the evening, took some beef-tea ; sucked gum-arabic ; her night was better ; no action of bowels ; the breast felt with milk ; learnt the child had suffered ; from the food taken its bowels became disordered ; gave it congee water ; and the mother's milk as already prepared, as it were, for the incidental state of the infant's bowels. The mother got well. The infant slept cold in its cot—fearing to disturb the mother in bed. As the mother got better, the infant seemed to become obstinately affected. At this interval her brother, Dr. A——, who had been expected long ago, arrived. Mrs. T. went on well. In the two or three days afterwards, calling, I found the infant still suffering from its bowels ; a wet-nurse had been got ; I detected, as I suspected, an inflammatory affec-

* Instinctively, on headache, in fever or not, the arms are carried above the head, not only because support and pressure is given to the congested head, but because, physiologically and physically, the elevation checks and diminishes the mass and torrent of circulation through the heated brain, that much, the arms placed otherwise, would naturally cause to excite.

tion of the bowels, for the stools were not so abundant as the nature of the food ; the pain of the bowels was great on the slightest pressure, and they were distended with great flatulency. I advised prolonged warm baths, and the applications of large and very soft, well-boiled linseed-meal cataplasms to the bowels, ample injections by the bowels four times a day, as a fomentation, of an enema made of the simple decoction of the marsh mallow, or simple water. The infant lived through a week of suffering ; had fits, and died in one. The mother religiously bore her loss, supported by her kind husband and favourite brother. They were now in the midst of preparations to leave for Bombay—the Major to join ; thanking me for the remedy against cholera, or rather the diarrhœa preparatory to cholera—adding the free insufflation by the bowels,—and remarked that the diarrhœa of his horses might be so treated, as the men of his troop and the Coolies, by taking the anti-peristaltic powder in sufficient quantities, and that he should never feel now at a loss.

CASE XIII.—Charlotte Carol, the infant child of Mrs. Colonel Delmar's French lady's maid, aged sixteen months, suffering from teething.—July 21st, 1847 : has been ill of diarrhœa five months ; became dreadfully emaciated ; suffering from spasms, colics, vomiting, and purging, keeping at last nothing on the stomach nor in the bowels ; groaning and whining incessantly for drink. When I saw the infant its state had become dysenterical ; it had been attended by a French physician—"médecin." I prescribed warmth as the immediate application, as the infant was kicking and

tossing about, by a flannel band thrice round the body; from the flannel being thin, to extend from the hips to the arm-pits; worsted leggings and sleeves; to lie in bed well covered, besides to have hot-water bottles to the feet, and to take internally a quarter of a tea-spoonful of the anti-peristaltic powder (C) suspended in some rice or gum-water—a table-spoonful after every evacuation, and to have blown up the bowels through a large quill, or any similar tube—the end being very smooth, (if a quill, to burn that part so as to smoothen it)—a similar quantity, or more, of the anti-peristaltic powder, dry: likewise, after every evacuation, and between the doses, to give, to allay the thirst, only a tea-spoonful at a time, of cold rice, gum, or plain cold water. The mother furnished herself with a quill so prepared, and simply blew the powder through it as prescribed; but with her mouth. The next day the child was considerably better: on the following day it was quite well, being free from purging, spasms, or sickness, and took its pap as usual, its previous food, and continued well.

In this case, the mother being French, I had some considerable prejudices to overcome; but as I was known to have been in attendance on her master and mistress, as well as to have given advice to Mrs. Foster, widow of the Rev. Mr. Foster, formerly chaplain to the Embassy, my prescription was got, and injunctions followed, though startling from the novelty, and the total difference to the opinions given before; but as the child was as bad as could be, and sinking, it prevailed.

CASE XIV. — Fritz Lewentz, a German, a hard-

working coach-smith, subject to derangement, from hard and irregular living and exposure; otherwise a seemingly strong built, courageous-looking man, aged 35. Had had diarrhoea, which, as usual, was neglected when the affection ran on to become dysenterical: he was feverish, and enfeebled so much, that he then confined himself to the house, and had recourse to the usual common French remedies, which, in France, every one knows. He got worse, and became so bad, that, hearing of my activity in the cholera, and living so close by, his wife intreated me to see him. I found him, August 25th, 1847, with intense fever, thirst, and all the painful symptoms of dysentery, and said he was very much reduced in flesh: had been ill a week or more; had not time to attend to himself,—that work must be done. It was not the first time such derangements went off of themselves by taking rice-water, rice-soup, lavements, &c. &c. I prescribed, as usual, great local warmth, abstinence from drinking, to sip only cold water, or the rice or gum-water, though the thirst was most intense. Ordered the anti-peristaltic powder (C), a tea-spoonful suspended in a wine-glass of water, or the drinks (A), every time the bowels acted, as also to have blown up the bowels similar quantities of the dry anti-peristaltic powder, after every evacuation, a minute or two after, and promised him he would soon be well—even in two or three days. The second day I was sent for: he was no better: I found him worse than when I last saw him, for now he was constantly up, suffering from the violence of the action of bowels; yet, to his surprise, nothing now but scanty, bloody mucus passing, with great effort, straining, scalding, heat and pain of

tenesmus, rigors, cramps, spasms, and great prostration. After this examination, I observed he had not taken all his powder, which was lying about; he said he did not like it! Found he had drank too freely,—it was because he was parched and thirsty! Inquired how they managed the insufflation of the powder up the rectum: they told me the pharmacien, the chemist, read the paper, the prescription, and did not understand it, and said such a thing was never done,—it must be a mistake! I asked where was the tube of gum-elastic ordered? The chemist did not give one with the powders. I observed, that if they trifled in this case, it might be fatal,—and the man would die through their fault. I then ordered—finding he was out of bed so often—that the stove in his room, which stood, as German stoves do, in the centre of the room, should have a fire kept up in it to keep the room warm night and day; to suck pieces of ice often; directed to get an elder twig from the next garden—there being an elder tree there—about four or six inches long, and of the size of the finger, to take the bark off, and force the pith out, to round, smooth the one end of it, to make a clean dry tube of it, and, instead of a lavement by a pair of bellows, to blow through this prepared tube a full tea-spoonful of the dry anti-peristaltic powder smartly up the rectum and bowels, and no fear! and to repeat the same after every evacuation—no matter if ever so scanty—and to take the tea-spoonful dose in the wine-glass of the liquid as before, and I would see him in the evening. At this visit I found he was better, as all was done according to orders. The first insufflation was, at the introduction of the tube through the sphincter ani, painful from the omission of greasing

the outside ; but once introduced, the insufflation up the bowels, of the powder, was felt to rise high, and was agreeable from its coolness. Care was taken that the subsequent introduction should be painless on its repetition. Thus contented, I awaited for further news of him. Whether, from his wife's occupations, her attendance on her husband was prevented,—or whether feeling better, he would, to save trouble or expense, go to the Hospice Beaujon to be attended to, and to have continued the treatment, I know not,—I heard nothing of him for a week, when I was again solicited to see him : then I found he had been to the hospital, and finding he was getting to feel worse than when he first went in, he was determined to leave and return home. On inquiring, he told me his treatment was changed to the usual one of the hospital ; which was that—the routine in France—known to every body in France. I enforced the return to the use of my anti-peristaltic powder. He requested me to write it out, as at the hospital the Doctor (médecin, Martin Salom) had kept the prescription. It was renewed him, and, as he could not sleep, from having nothing on his stomach digesting, a few drops of laudanum at night were given him, and, from the contrast of his feelings, perceived the benefit of the treatment, which he now persisted in, got well enough at the end of the week to sit out in the air in the sun, and soon after walked to the hospital to see a friend he had left there ill of the same complaint as himself ; he there found that his friend had died ! and the “*sœurs de charité*”—the sister nuns of charity, as the attendants,—male “*infirmiers*”—infirmaries men, stared to see him alive so soon on his legs ; and greeted, at seeing him, with “*Comment !*”—hollo ! “*Mais, oui*”

—oh ! yes. “Diablo”—the devil. “C’est bien moi, Fritz”—here I am, Fritz. “Nous vous croyons bien mort”—we gave you up as surely dead. “Non ! grace au médecin le docteur Anglais, me voilà !”—No ! thanks to the English doctor, here I am, quite well.

CASE XV.—Mr. J., most highly connected with the English nobility, as that of France, of long residence in Paris, by some accidental mistake took a large dose—six or eight grains—of emetic tartar. It produced no vomitings, but brought on most repeated and the most distressing derangement of the bowels possible. Not being the regular attendant on his family, but often favoured by being asked to give advice by his lady, and constantly doing and participating in her charities, being near their residence, I was called in to see him early on the morning of the 12th of November, 1847.

Finding the suffering was, as above stated, from distressing diarrhœa, I immediately advised the anti-peristaltic powder, a tea-spoonful to be taken, suspended in a wine-glass of rice water, after every action of the bowels, and prescribed the usual anti-spasmodic applications to the bowels of æther and laudanum. To eat plain boiled Carolina rice, to absorb the bile, and to aliment the system at the same time. Mr. J., not being young, though, from his natural good health, he had never required any medical attendance, felt convinced of my reasons and argument, and adopted immediately the treatment, and soon felt better, and was to have ate a captain’s biscuit. In the meantime, the friend and regular attendant of the family, having been informed of the accident, called, and advised strongly and repeatedly the taking of a rhubarb and magnesia

draught, with peppermint water and laudanum, to get rid of bile. It was not taken, from the feeling convinced that it was not then needed. In the evening Mr. J. felt comparatively well ; had taken the simple rice and a biscuit or two, the anti-peristaltic powder, and would finish with a cup of tea ; and, being naturally a very abstemious man, contented himself. At my visit the next morning, found the night had passed very comfortably, with quiet good sleep ; had enjoyed his breakfast of tea, with plain captain's biscuit, and was to take rice soup, and the wing of a boiled chicken. In the evening I found him at tea quite well, and was to leave the bowels to natural action, the diet being light, and to walk out. I met him walking, quite well, though feeling a little pulled down.

REMEDIES.

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CLASS OF REMEDIES the most effective, ready, and economical, as stated, recommended and used by DR. SKIERS in cases of severe diarrhoea, dysentery, sporadic, or Asiatic cholera.

### A.—Drinks of a nature

|                                                                   |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ANALEPTIC<br>ANTISPASMODIC<br>ANTIFERMENTATIVE<br>ANTIPERISTALTIC | } | Cold water; ice; Carolina rice water; gum water; albuminous water, white of egg in a tumbler of water; starch water, a tea-spoonful in a tumbler of cold water; gum tragacanth, ditto in hot water. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

To be taken without sugar, salt, spice, wine, spirits. To be drank cold, by sips, or a table-spoonful, every five minutes.

### B.—Food of a nature

|                                                                                             |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ABSORBENT<br>ANTIPERISTALTIC<br>ANALEPTIC<br>ANTIFERMENTATIVE<br>ANTI-ACID<br>ANTIFLATULENT | } | Boiled Carolina rice, to be ate cold; captain's or seaman's biseuits, hard, or softened by some hot water; sago, tapioca, arrow root, tout-le-mois, maize, wheaten flour, starch, or biseuit, boiled to a jelly; yolk of egg, boiled hard. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

To be ate, eoked plain, without any of the above condiments, &c. To be ate cold, now and then, plain, a table-spoonful or two, a biseuit, or a yolk of egg, &c.



### C.—Antiperistaltic Powder.

|                  |   |                                         |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------------------|
| ABSORBENT        | } | ℞ Pulv. Gum. Trag. ʒj.                  |
| ANALEPTIC        |   | — Gum. Arab. ʒj.                        |
| ANTACID          |   | Amyli pp. in Pulver. ʒij.               |
| ANTIFERMENTATIVE |   | Bicarbonatis Sodæ, ʒj. M. Ft. Pulv.     |
| ANTIPLATULENT    |   | antiperistaltic. Capt. Coch. j. min. ex |
| ANTIPERISTALTIC  |   | aqua frigid. Cyatho vini parv.          |

The antiperistaltic powder to be given if the above simple domestic means fail : not only a tea-spoonful in a small wine glass of any of the above drinks, after every action of the bowels, but a tea-spoonful must be blown up the bowels, through a tube, or small syringe, as directed, after every action of the bowels, conjointly with taking the powder by the stomach : the advantage of this 'practice is to stop the peristaltic action of the bowels, to wrap up and absorb the bile and acrid secretions, to administer a good aliment of quick digestion, preventing sinking.

The insufflation of the powder up the bowels allays the great heat and irritation of the rectum and colon, stops the spasms, and the scaldings, and the pain : still more, it stops the falling of the gut, the knotting, the intussusception, the excoriations and consequent ulcerations and perforations of the bowels ; thereby saving the lives of many infants, thin, and nervous, and irritable individuals, whose bowels from nervous spasmodic movement tend to knot and invaginate. Seven invaginations have been seen in a case of cholera.

### D.—Epithem Domestic Application.

|               |   |                                                                                                                           |
|---------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ANTISPASMODIC | } | Warm brandy, spirits camphorated,                                                                                         |
| STIMULANT     |   | æther, vinegar, turpentine, hot salt, mustard, pepper, garlic, horse raddish, peppermint, sage, thyme, tar ; and with hot |
| RUBEFACIENT   |   | water as cataplasms, plaisters or stinging                                                                                |
| REVULSIVE     |   | nettles simply applied, &c.                                                                                               |
| ANTICOLIC     |   |                                                                                                                           |

These are better to be applied to the naked skin, covered with flannel or sheep-skin oiled, oiled silk, a mackintosh.

E.—Medicinals professionally ordered to be used internally or externally.

|                |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| NARCOTICS      | } | Opium, laudanum, paregorie elixir, tobacco, Dover's powder, camphor, musk, assafoetida, peppermint, naphtha, catechu, extract of log-wood, acetate of lead, bismuth, tannin, gall nut, cinnamon, cloves, ginger, alum, coffee, black or green tea, camomile, decoction of blackberry leaves, bark, quinine. |
| OPIATES        |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| ANTISPASMODICS |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| ASTRINGENTS    |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| STIMULANTS     |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| EXCITANTS      |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| CARMINATIVES   |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| CORDIALS       |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| TONICS         |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| ACIDS          |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

As a cordial, brandy burnt between two flames, to the exhaustion of all the spirit, with white sugar, or white sugar-candy, taking a tea-spoonful with a wine glass of a drink, A.

F.—Baths, Hot Water or Vapour.

|             |   |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EMOLLIENT   | } | Water, or the vapour of water; emollient herbs; soporific, as henbane or belladonna leaves; mint, camomile, vinegar, mustard, salt, potassa, ammonia, bran, camphor, turpentine, &c. &c. |
| STIMULANT   |   |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| NARCOTIC    |   |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| RUBEFACIENT |   |                                                                                                                                                                                          |

With regard to baths, costly as they may seem, they might be made, as I have mentioned in the body of the sketch, in a manner impromptu and extempore of any of the things above stated; that is, by causing the patient to be seated on a cane chair, or crossed sticks, or on a high stool, placing under the seat a large kettle of boiling water, with any herb or stimulant, ammonia, camphor, &c., as in (F) and (D), slowly and cautiously withdrawing the lid or covering; the patient being well covered up, &c., to profusely perspire.

The above class of means, with trifling professional modifications, no affection of diarrhoea, dysentery, or sporadic cholera, have failed in my hands,—whether affecting the infant or the octogenarian.

From the simplicity and economy to the poor, as intended for, when known to them, it must prove a boon and a blessing.

G.—Renegala Nephritic Balsam.

|               |   |                                                |
|---------------|---|------------------------------------------------|
| STIMULANT     | } | ℞ Camphor. in pulver. gr. ij.                  |
| ANTISPASMODIC |   | Flores Benzoici Balsam. gr. iij.               |
| BALSAMIC      |   | Gum Tragacanth. in pulver. gr. iv.             |
| ANTIUREA      |   | Syrupi Tolutani, q. s. M. fiat Bolus renegala. |

To suck one or two of the renegala boluses in the course of the day, especially when exposed to cold.

THE END.

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